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JANUARY
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WALT DISNEY'S COMICS

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WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES

William Van Horn is often able to work a variation on a theme. In this issue's "Hot Shots," he manages to turn a Winter story into a "Summer" story through the convention of a convenient active volcano. Van Horn's work continues to be a favorite with Disney fans, so rest assured he will remain a staple feature in *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories.*

John Lustig's witty humor also returns in these pages with "Almost a Hero." I've said it before and I'll say it again, Lustig doesn't write often enough to suit me. Look for more of his work in the months to come.

Leading this edition and completing a triad of Duck stories is Gorm Transgaard and Vicar's clever New Year story "Duck in Orbit." Many fans consider Vicar to be their favorite Duck artist and, perusing these pages, it's certainly evident that he's in the running for that distinction.

Featuring three Donald stories in one issue makes this one of those "Duck heavy" books that some of you love and some of you hate. The jury on this one is just about split evenly, so we'll continue to produce some issues with a lot of Duck material.

Wishing a prosperous New Year to everyone!

— John Clark

• IN THIS ISSUE •

Donald Duck **DUCK IN ORBIT**	**Story:** Gorm Transgaard **Art:** Vicar **Color:** Egmont & Scott Rockwell **Lettering:** Susie Lee
Mickey Mouse **YUKON HIJACK**	**Story:** Sarah Kinney **Art:** Xavi **Color:** Egmont & S. Daigle-Leach **Lettering:** Jon Babcock
Donald Duck **ALMOST A HERO**	**Story:** John Lustig **Art:** Carlos Mota **Color:** Egmont & S. Daigle-Leach **Lettering:** Travis Seitler
Horace Horsecollar **ALL ABOARD THE BLUNDER BUS**	**Story:** Stefan Petrucha **Art:** Jesper Lund Madsen **Color:** Egmont & Sue Kolberg **Lettering:** Willie Schubert
Goofy **THE UNKNOWN HERO**	**Story:** Carl Fallberg **Art:** Paul Murry **Color:** Michael Kraiger
Donald Duck **HOT SHOTS**	**Story & Art:** William Van Horn **Color:** Egmont & Scott Rockwell **Lettering:** Sue Kolberg

Front cover art by Branca, color by Susan Daigle-Leach,

NEXT ISSUE SHIPS WEEK OF JANUARY 19TH
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Walt Disney's Comics

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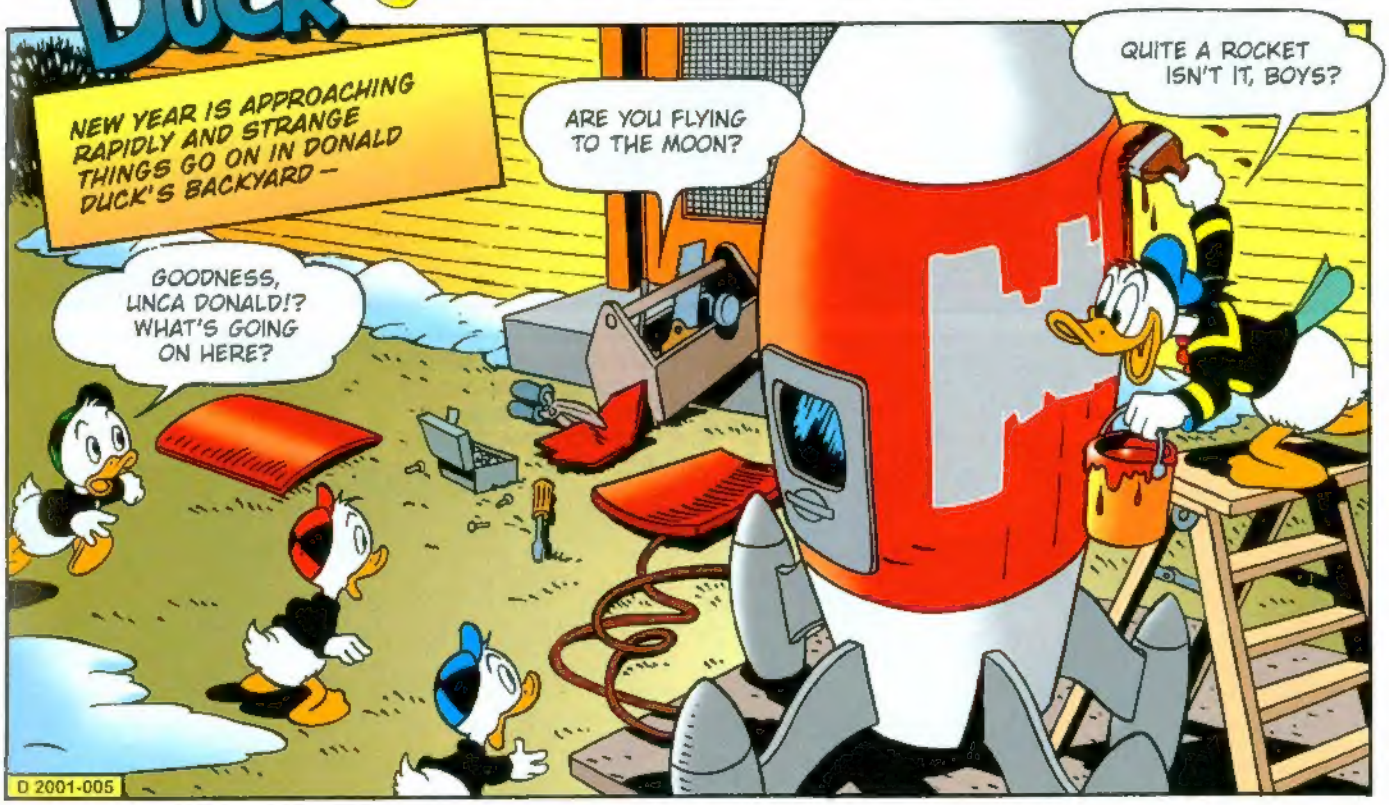
Walt Disney's Donald Duck in

DUCK IN ORBIT


NEW YEAR IS APPROACHING RAPIDLY AND STRANGE THINGS GO ON IN DONALD DUCK'S BACKYARD —
GOODNESS, UNCA DONALD!? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
ARE YOU FLYING TO THE MOON?
QUITE A ROCKET ISN'T IT, BOYS?
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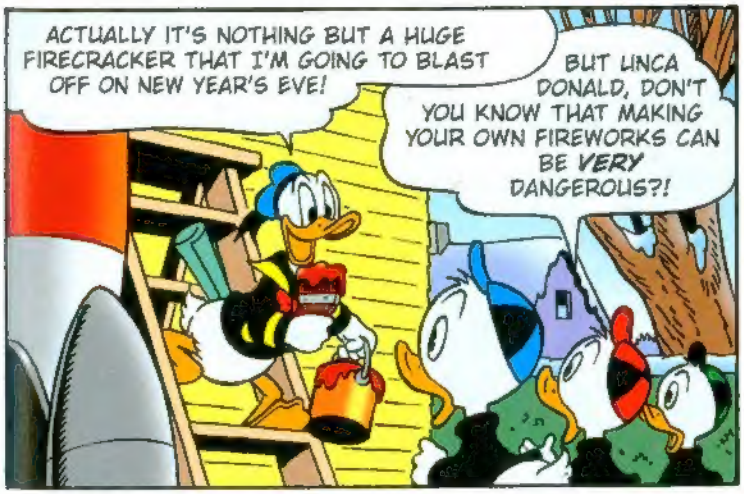
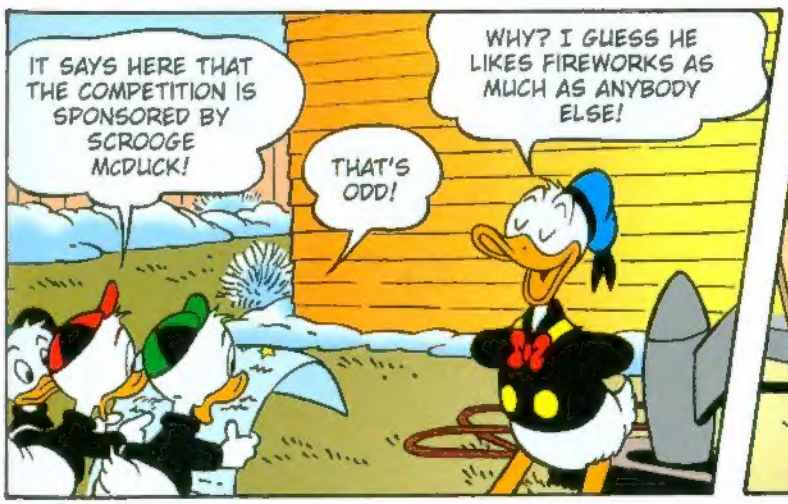
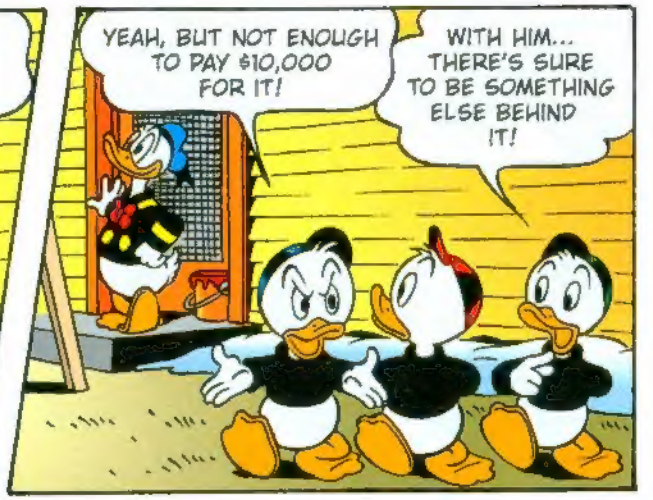
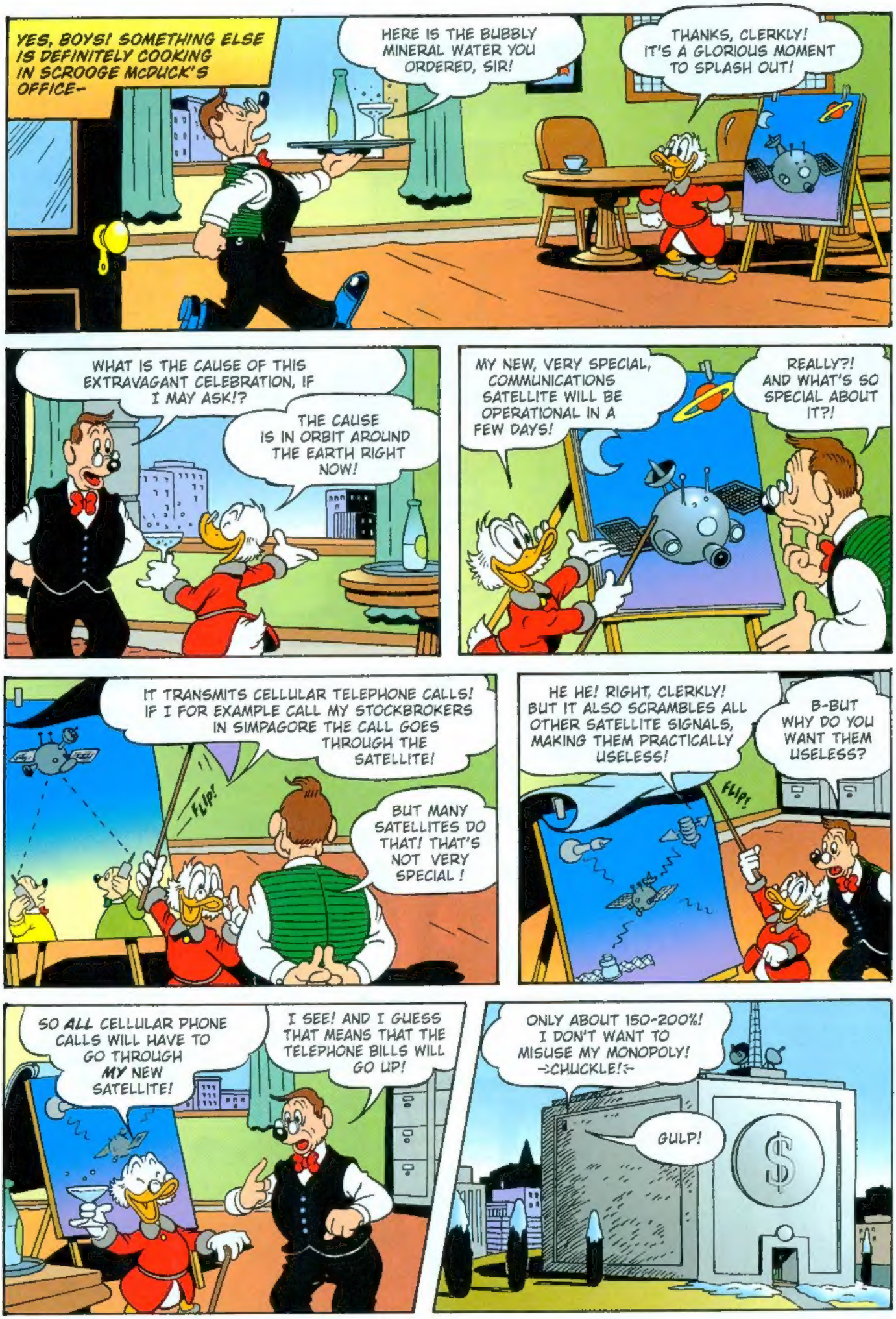

ACTUALLY IT'S NOTHING BUT A HUGE FIRECRACKER THAT I'M GOING TO BLAST OFF ON NEW YEAR'S EVE!
BUT UNCA DONALD, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT MAKING YOUR OWN FIREWORKS CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS?!

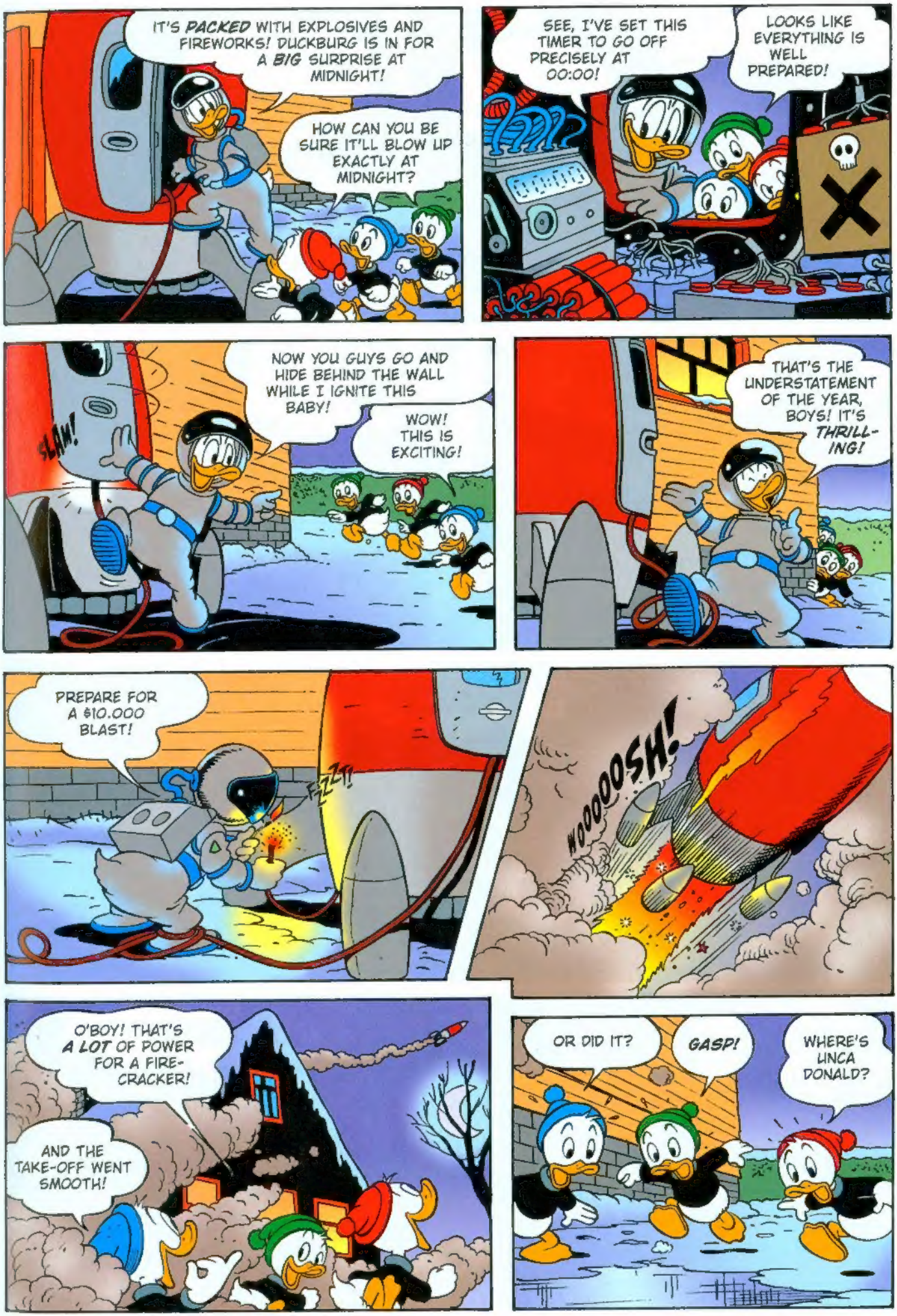

IT SAYS HERE THAT THE COMPETITION IS SPONSORED BY SCROOGE McDUCK!
THAT'S ODD!
WHY? I GUESS HE LIKES FIREWORKS AS MUCH AS ANYBODY ELSE!

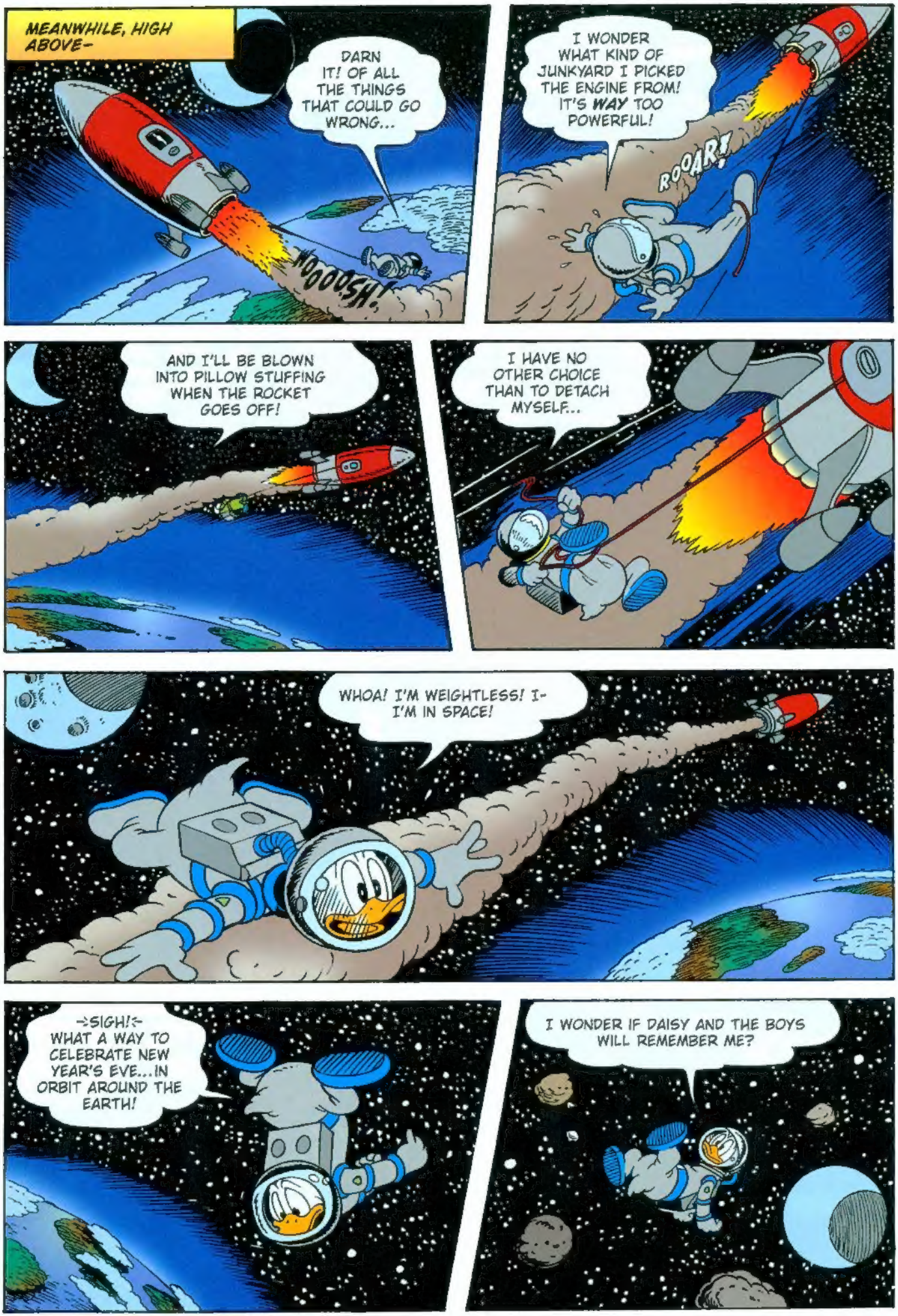


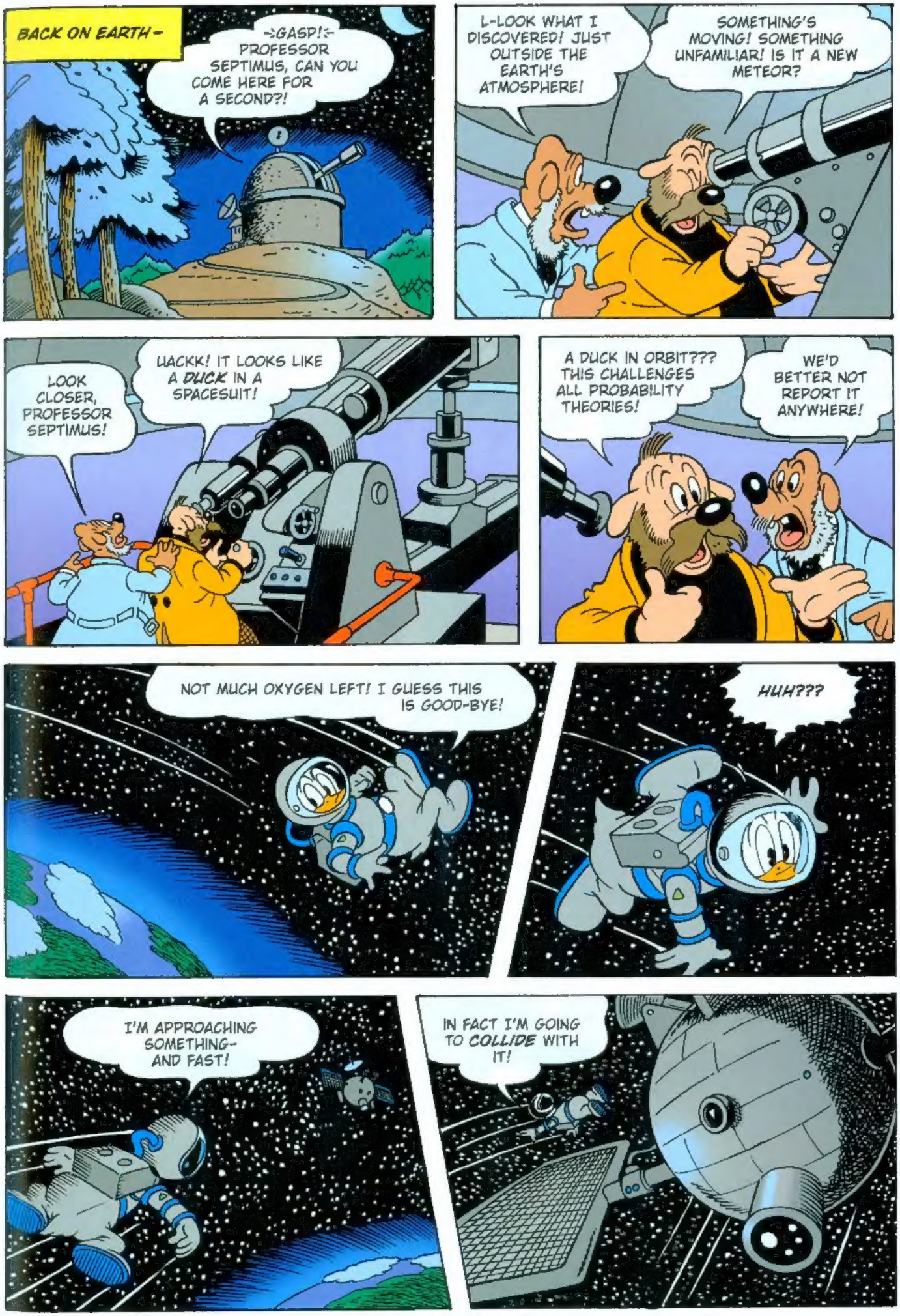

YES, BOYS! SOMETHING ELSE IS DEFINITELY COOKING IN SCROOGE McDUCK'S OFFICE–
HERE IS THE BUBBLY MINERAL WATER YOU ORDERED, SIR!
THANKS, CLERKLY! IT'S A GLORIOUS MOMENT TO SPLASH OUT!
WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF THIS EXTRAVAGANT CELEBRATION, IF I MAY ASK!?
THE CAUSE IS IN ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH RIGHT NOW!
MY NEW, VERY SPECIAL, COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE WILL BE OPERATIONAL IN A FEW DAYS!
REALLY?! AND WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT?!
IT TRANSMITS CELLULAR TELEPHONE CALLS! IF I FOR EXAMPLE CALL MY STOCKBROKERS IN SIMPAGORE THE CALL GOES THROUGH THE SATELLITE!
FLIP!
BUT MANY SATELLITES DO THAT! THAT'S NOT VERY SPECIAL!
HE HE! RIGHT, CLERKLY! BUT IT ALSO SCRAMBLES ALL OTHER SATELLITE SIGNALS, MAKING THEM PRACTICALLY USELESS!
B-BUT WHY DO YOU WANT THEM USELESS?
FLIP!
SO ALL CELLULAR PHONE CALLS WILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH MY NEW SATELLITE!
I SEE! AND I GUESS THAT MEANS THAT THE TELEPHONE BILLS WILL GO UP!
ONLY ABOUT 150-200%! I DON'T WANT TO MISUSE MY MONOPOLY! -:CHUCKLE!:-
GULP!
$

BUT WON'T PEOPLE PROTEST WHEN THEY SUDDENLY GET ENORMOUS TELEPHONE BILLS?
HEH HEH! I'VE THOUGHT OF THAT TOO!
IT'S WHY I MADE THIS SILLY FIREWORKS COMPETITION! PEOPLE WILL BE SO BUSY WITH FIREWORKS THAT THEY WON'T EVEN NOTICE THE CHANGE!
EH, VERY CLEVER, MR. McDUCK!
FIREWORKS COMPETITION
1st PRIZE
$10,000
AND AT THE SAME TIME I'LL PROBABLY MAKE A BUCK OR TWO ON INCREASED FIREWORKS SALES! AREN'T YOU HAPPY FOR ME, CLERKLY?
EH... BUBBLING WITH DELIGHT, SIR!
BUT LESS BUBBLY ABOUT THE NEWS THAT MY TELEPHONE BILL WILL BE DOUBLED!
MEANWHILE WE FIND A FAMILIAR CHARACTER IN A JUNKYARD–
WOW! THIS LOOKS GREAT!
I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT IS EXACTLY, BUT I CAN PROBABLY USE IT FOR MY ROCKET!
AND HERE'S A SORT OF SPACESUIT OR SOMETHING! MIGHT COME IN HANDY TOO!

I'VE BUILT MY ENTIRE ROCKET OUT OF COMPONENTS I'VE FOUND IN THIS JUNKYARD!
313
INCREDIBLE WHAT PEOPLE THROW AWAY!
KEEP OFF!
JUNKYARD OF DUCKBURG SPACE CENTER
AND TO MAKE SURE I HAVE A REALLY BIG BLAST...
GOOD DAY, MR. DUCK! DON'T TELL ME YOU NEED ANOTHER BOX OF EXPLOSIVES?!
MAKE THAT THREE MORE BOXES, BLAMMONSON!
HEAVENS! YOU REALIZE THAT IT'S TERRIBLY STRONG STUFF YOU'RE BUYING, DON'T YOU?
BACK HOME-
GEE! MORE EXPLOSIVES, UNCA DONALD?
YEP! THOSE $10,000 ARE AS GOOD AS MINE!
10,000 DOLLARS WON'T BUY US A NEW UNCLE!
THERE NOW, LITTLE AUNTIE WORRYWARTS... WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF ADVENTURE?
I'LL EVEN WEAR THIS SPACESUIT FOR PROTECTION! I'M SURE SOMETHING GOOD WILL COME OUT OF THIS WHOLE STORY!
LET'S HOPE SO!
ANOTHER FEW DAYS PASS AND EVENTUALLY WE REACH NEW YEAR'S EVE-
THIS IS IT, BOYS! PUT ON YOUR MITTENS AND LET'S HAVE A BLAST!


IT'S PACKED WITH EXPLOSIVES AND FIREWORKS! DUCKBURG IS IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE AT MIDNIGHT!
HOW CAN YOU BE SURE IT'LL BLOW UP EXACTLY AT MIDNIGHT?
SEE, I'VE SET THIS TIMER TO GO OFF PRECISELY AT 00:00!
LOOKS LIKE EVERYTHING IS WELL PREPARED!
SLAM!
NOW YOU GUYS GO AND HIDE BEHIND THE WALL WHILE I IGNITE THIS BABY!
WOW! THIS IS EXCITING!
THAT'S THE UNDERSTATEMENT OF THE YEAR, BOYS! IT'S THRILL-ING!
PREPARE FOR A $10.000 BLAST!
FZZT!
WOOOOOSH!
O'BOY! THAT'S A LOT OF POWER FOR A FIRE-CRACKER!
AND THE TAKE-OFF WENT SMOOTH!
OR DID IT?
GASP!
WHERE'S UNCA DONALD?


MEANWHILE, HIGH ABOVE-
DARN IT! OF ALL THE THINGS THAT COULD GO WRONG...
HOOOOSH!
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF JUNKYARD I PICKED THE ENGINE FROM! IT'S WAY TOO POWERFUL!
ROOAR!
AND I'LL BE BLOWN INTO PILLOW STUFFING WHEN THE ROCKET GOES OFF!
I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO DETACH MYSELF...
WHOA! I'M WEIGHTLESS! I- I'M IN SPACE!
-SIGH!- WHAT A WAY TO CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE... IN ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH!
I WONDER IF DAISY AND THE BOYS WILL REMEMBER ME?


BACK ON EARTH –
-:GASP!:- PROFESSOR SEPTIMUS, CAN YOU COME HERE FOR A SECOND?!
L-LOOK WHAT I DISCOVERED! JUST OUTSIDE THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE!
SOMETHING'S MOVING! SOMETHING UNFAMILIAR! IS IT A NEW METEOR?
LOOK CLOSER, PROFESSOR SEPTIMUS!
HACKK! IT LOOKS LIKE A DUCK IN A SPACESUIT!
A DUCK IN ORBIT??? THIS CHALLENGES ALL PROBABILITY THEORIES!
WE'D BETTER NOT REPORT IT ANYWHERE!
NOT MUCH OXYGEN LEFT! I GUESS THIS IS GOOD-BYE!
HUH???
I'M APPROACHING SOMETHING– AND FAST!
IN FACT I'M GOING TO COLLIDE WITH IT!

OUCH!
KLUNK!
WHOA! I THINK I CRASHED INTO SOME SORT OF SATELLITE OR SOMETHING!?
AND THAT THING LOOKS LIKE AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE!
PERHAPS I CAN SHOOT MYSELF BACK TO EARTH IN IT!?
BUT HOW DOES IT WORK? I'VE PUSHED EVERY SINGLE BUTTON!
UH-OH! SOMETHING'S COMING THIS WAY! -GULP!- AT VERY HIGH SPEED!
I-IT'S GOING TO CRASH INTO ME!
I'M DONE FOR!
COME ON, STUPID LITTLE SPACESHIP...GET THAT ENGINE GOING!

DOWN ON EARTH SCROOGE'S NEW YEAR'S BANQUET IS FULLY UNDER WAY-
DEAR CONTESTANTS! IT'S GETTING VERY CLOSE TO MIDNIGHT AND IT'S TIME TO EVALUATE YOUR FIREWORKS!
YI-PEEE! ABOUT TIME!
GET READY...
SET...
AND...
FIRE!
WHOA!
GEE!
BLAM!
POFF!
WOW!
SHORTLY AFTER-
THAT WAS IT, I GUESS! EH... UNLESS SOMEBODY HAS SOME MORE TO ADD IN THE FINAL SECONDS BEFORE THE BELLS RING IN THE NEW YEAR!

KA-BLAM!
HOLY MACARONI! THAT'S WHAT I CALL FIREWORKS!
A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION!
AMAZING! ASTONISHING! THE OBVIOUS WINNER!
-:SIGH!:- WE CAN'T COMPETE WITH THAT!
BUT WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS? WON'T THE WINNER COME FORWARD?
IT WAS NONE OF US!
LOOK! SOMETHING IS COMING DOWN FROM THE SKY!
LOOKS LIKE A SPACE VEHICLE!
GEE, IT'S TURNING INTO A LANDING CAPSULE OF SOME SORT!
KLONK!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

ALIENS?!
LET'S OPEN IT UP!
THUD!
McDUCK
EH... HULLUH FOLKS... NICE PARTY... WHERE AM I?
DONALD??!
ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AWESOME EXPLOSION WE'VE JUST WITNESSED?
EH... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I AM...
THEN A HEARTFELT CONGRATULATION! THE TROPHY AND THE $10,000 ARE YOURS!
ERRR... -GULP!-
DONALD, CAN YOU COME HERE FOR A SECOND?!
McDUCK
HOW COME YOU ARRIVED IN AN EMERGENCY SPACE CAPSULE WITH MY LOGO ON IT?
EH... YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW...
OH, YOU BET YOUR SWEET TAIL FEATHERS THAT I WANT TO KNOW!
IT'S A LONG BORING STORY, REALLY! BESIDES YOUR PHONE IS RINGING!
RIIING!

THIS IS YOUR TECHNICIAN FROM SATELLITE GROUND CONTROL! I HAVE SOME DISTURBING NEWS ABOUT YOUR NEW SATELLITE!
WH-WHAT??
WE'VE STOPPED RECEIVING SIGNALS FROM IT AND WE CAN'T SEE IT ON THE RADAR AFTER THAT BIG BLINDING LIGHT!
GULP!
WHAT WAS THAT LIGHT?
MR. McDUCK, CAN YOU HEAR ME? ARE YOU STILL THERE? HELLO...MR. McDUCK...
WE'RE NOT SURE...BUT IT LOOKS AS IF A ROCKET RAMMED RIGHT INTO IT AND BLEW IT UP!
IT'S YOU! I KNOW IT'S YOU! YOU BLEW UP MY BRAND NEW 6100 BILLION SATELLITE, DIDN'T YOU?!
EH... MY NEW YEAR'S ROCKET TURNED OUT TO BE A BIT STRONGER THAN PLANNED!
COME BACK HERE AND ACCEPT YOUR PUNISHMENT! GRRR! FIZZZLE!
EH... GOTTA GO...
THREE DAYS LATER-
IT'S NO USE HIDING, DEAR NEPHEW! SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL HAVE TO COME OUT...
AND WHEN YOU DO... GRRR!
THERE'S PLENTY OF EMERGENCY FOOD RATIONS! I CAN STAY HERE TILL NEXT NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Walt Disney's

MICKEY MOUSE in YUKON HIJACK

A WINTER VACATION IN ALASKA, BUT SO FAR OUR FRIENDS, MICKEY AND GOOFY, HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED ANY ADVENTURES ON THEIR LONG, CROSS-COUNTRY SNOW TREK—
JUS' BREATHE THAT CLEAN PURE AIR, MICK! WHAT A PLACE! Y'KNOW, THEY SAY THUH ESKIMOS HAVE SIXTEEN DIFFERENT WORDS FER SNOW!
SHUCKS, GOOF! IT ALL LOOKS LIKE SNOW TO ME! I WANT EXCITEMENT!
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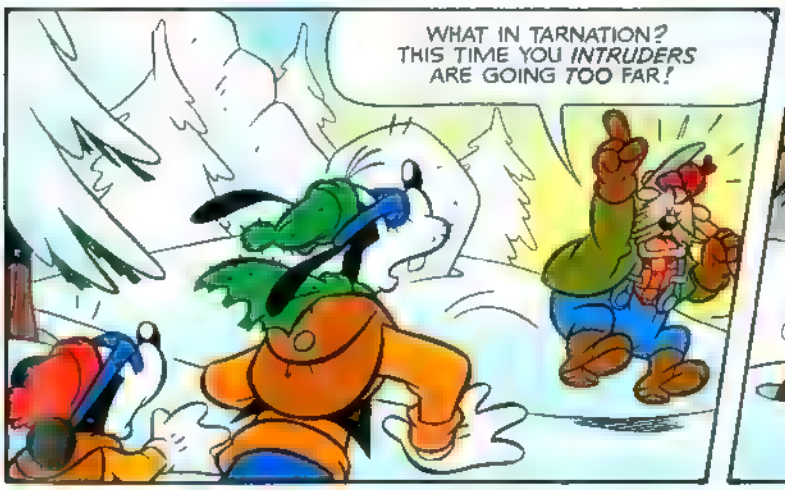
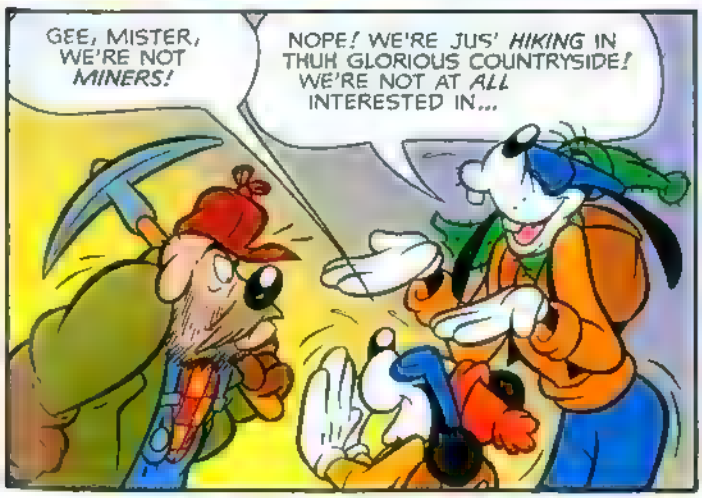
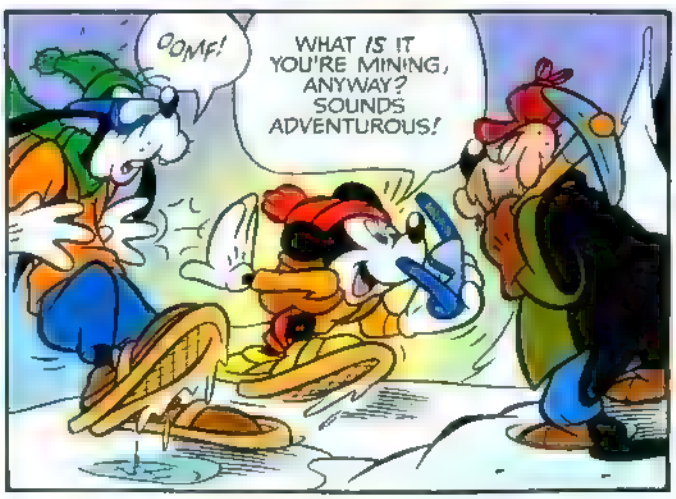


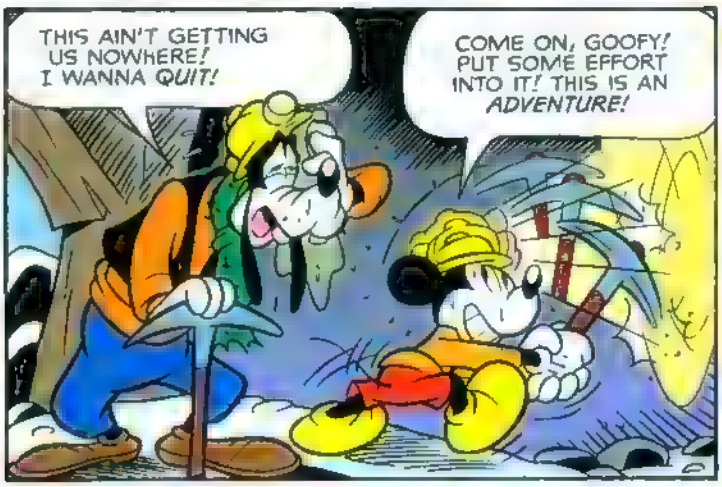


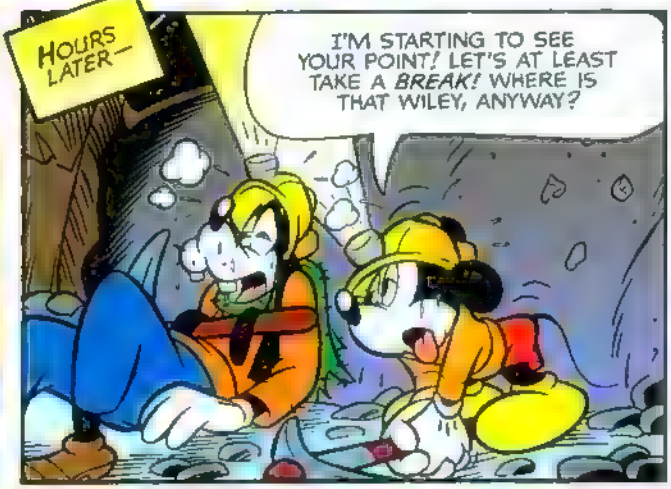


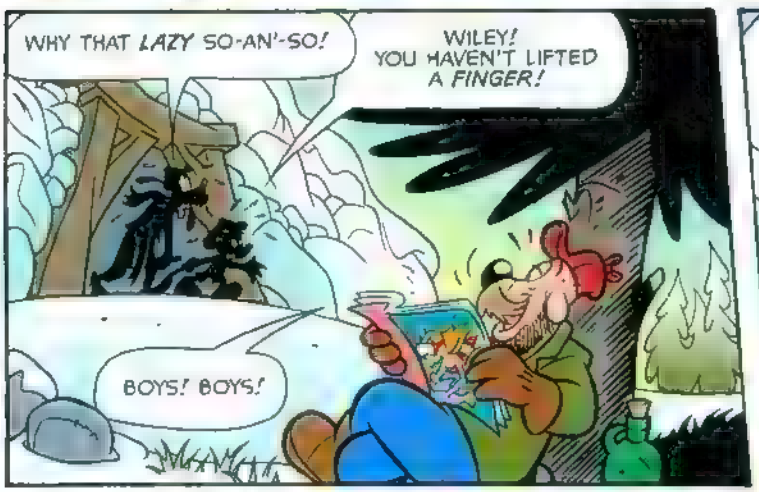
ADVENTUROUS? HECK! IT'S EPIC! THERE'S NO MORE GOLD IN THESE HILLS, BUT THERE IS A HUGE VEIN OF...
...DOPANIUM!
Huh?
WHAT'D YOU CALL ME?
DOPANIUM! A RARE MINERAL THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO BUILD, Um, SUPERSONIC, NON-STICK SUBMARINES FOR DEEP OCEANIC RESEARCH!
SOUNDS EXCITING!
SURE IT DOES! AN' I GUESS I DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANY MORE WHEN SUCH A THING IS SO IMPORTANT TO ALL OF HUMANITY!
ALL HUMANITY?
WELL, BEST O'LUCK TO YUH, WILEY! MICKEY AND I SHOULD GET BACK TO OUR HIKE! C'MON, MICK!
SO, BUDDY, IF WE GET A MOVE ON, I FIGURE WE CAN MAKE IT TUH THE FAMED CABIN FEVER INN IN LESS THAN AN HOUR!
MICK?! Uh... MICKEY?
WHY, WITH DOPANIUM, THOSE SUBS SLIP THROUGH THE OCEAN FASTER'N A BALL BEARING IN OIL!
REALLY? WOW!

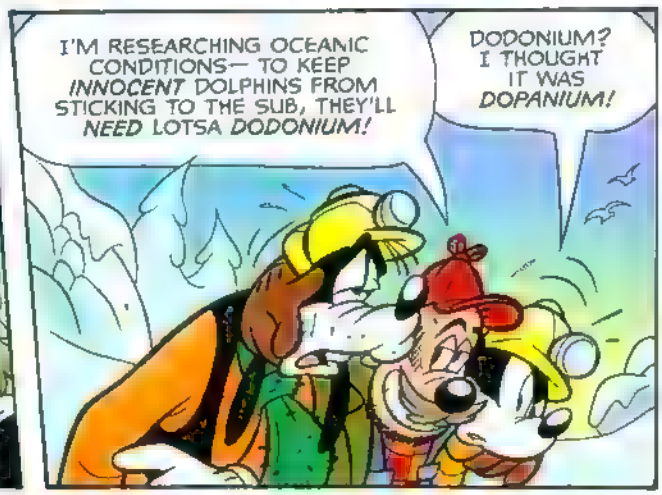
I'M SURE THIS IS ALL PRETTY INTERESTING! BUT, IT'LL BE DARK SOON ENOUGH AND THEY HAVE HOT CHOCOLATE AT THUH CABIN FEVER INN!
WILEY'S TOO OLD TO MINE ALONE, SO I'VE VOLUNTEERED OUR SERVICES! THIS GOVERNMENT PROJECT'S EXCITING! HOW CAN WE SAY NO?
WE'RE DOIN' WHUT FER WHO? DOES WILEY HAVE HOT CHOCOLATE? I DON'T THINK SO!
YOU BOYS WILL NEED THESE TO SEE YOUR WAY!
Aw, HECK, MICK! WHY DIDN'T YUH SAY WE GOT TUH WEAR THESE COOL BEANIES?!
AND OF COURSE, YOU'LL NEED THESE!
HECK, WHY NOT WORK ON MY VACATION? THIS'LL BE A SWITCH!
WHEN DO WE START?
NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT! BETTER GET CRACKING BEFORE THE OCEAN DRIES UP, ALTOGETHER!
ARE WE SURE WE'D RATHER DO THIS THAN SIT IN THUH INN?
GULP! I GUESS! HOW BAD CAN IT BE?

TAKE THAT, YOU ROCK, YOU!
HACK!
HACK!
CHIP!
=GROAN!= I CAN'T EVEN MAKE A DENT!
CRUNCH!
HACK!

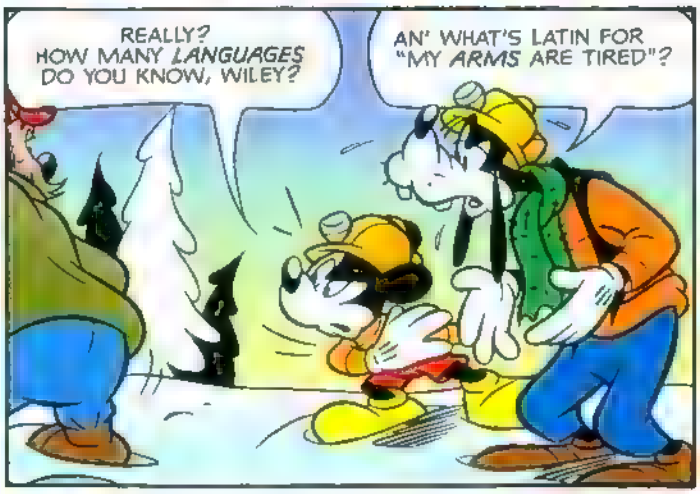

THIS AIN'T GETTING US NOWHERE! I WANNA QUIT!
COME ON, GOOFY! PUT SOME EFFORT INTO IT! THIS IS AN ADVENTURE!


HOURS LATER—
I'M STARTING TO SEE YOUR POINT! LET'S AT LEAST TAKE A BREAK! WHERE IS THAT WILEY, ANYWAY?


WHY THAT LAZY SO-AN'-SO!
WILEY! YOU HAVEN'T LIFTED A FINGER!
BOYS! BOYS!


I'M RESEARCHING OCEANIC CONDITIONS— TO KEEP INNOCENT DOLPHINS FROM STICKING TO THE SUB, THEY'LL NEED LOTSA DODONIUM!
DODONIUM? I THOUGHT IT WAS DOPANIUM!

OF COURSE! Y'SEE... Uh... SECRET AGENTS SUCH AS MYSELF SPEAK MANY LANGUAGES— AND DODONIUM IS LATIN FOR DOPANIUM!


REALLY? HOW MANY LANGUAGES DO YOU KNOW, WILEY?
AN' WHAT'S LATIN FOR "MY ARMS ARE TIRED"?

ENOUGH CHIT-CHAT, BOYS! BACK TO WORK!
BUT, WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY *LUCK* IN THIS SPOT!
YOU'VE GOT TO GO *DEEPER!*
I DON'T SEE ANY *DUPANIUM*, DO YOU?
WELL, LET'S GIVE IT *ANOTHER* SHOT!
FOR NON-STICK DOLPHINS *EVERYWHERE!*
URRRRGH?
HACK!
HACK!
HACK!
HACK!
HEY, MICK! STOP *BREATHING* DOWN MUH NECK!
HACK!
HACK!
HACK!
HACK!
I'M NOT! *YOU'RE* BREATHING DOWN *MINE!* Uh-Oh, I HOPE IT'S NOT A...
ROOAARRR!
...BEAR!

THIS ENOUGH ADVENTURE FOR YUH, MICK?
ACTUALLY, I HAD MY FILL HOURS AGO!
ROOAARR!
SCAT, YOU VARMINT!
BANG!
WHINE!
THANKS, WILEY, BUT WE'VE HAD ENOUGH!
YEAH! WE'RE GOIN' BACK TUH OUR NICE QUIET VACATION!
WELL! =SNIFF!= YOU CAN CERTAINLY GO IF YOU WANT TO! I'LL JUST HAVE TO CONTINUE ON MY OWN! =SOB!= SOMEHOW!
I JUST HOPE I CAN MAKE A STRIKE ALL BY MY LONESOME BEFORE ANOTHER OCEAN SPECIES BECOMES EXTINCT!
UMPH! THIS SURE IS HEAVIER THAN I REMEMBER! UMPH!
OW! MY BACK! MY BACK! I SURE ENVY YOUR YOUTH AND VIGOR!

POOR WILEY! ±SIGH!± I FEEL SO ASHAMED!
IT'S THUH DOLPHINS I KEEP THINKING ABOUT! ±SNIFFLE!± POOR LITTLE GUYS!
HEY, LOOK! WE'RE FINALLY MAKING PROGRESS! THE WHOLE WALL'S COMING DOWN!
HACK! HACK! HACK!
AACK! THE WHOLE MINE'S COMIN' DOWN!
RUMBLE!
TERRIFIC, BOYS! I JUST KNOW WE'RE CLOSER THAN EVER TO THAT DOPAMITE NOW!
DOPAMITE?
ER... THAT'S FRENCH! DOPANIUM LOOSENS ROCK AROUND IT, CAUSING A COLLAPSE RIGHT BEFORE YOU STRIKE IT BIG! BACK TO WORK, BOYS!
HEY! MY PICK IS WET!
WET? WHY WOULD IT BE WET?
ROAR!
SPLOOOORSH!
IS THAT THUH DOPANIUM? LOOKS LIKE WATER!
YIKES! IT IS WATER! RUN FOR IT, GOOFY!

AND I THINK WE'RE THE DOPES!
SPLOOOORSH! ROAR!
LATER-
WELL, NOW THAT THE WATER'S DRAINED OFF, I'VE BEEN THROUGH THE WHOLE MINE AND I'M SORRY TO SAY IT'S UTTERLY DRY OF DOPANIUM!
C-C-C'MON MICK! WE CAN S-S-STILL MAKE THUH CABIN FEVER INN BEFORE NIGHTFALL!
O-O-O-OKAY!
THAT'S THE WAY THE DOPIUM CRUMBLES! THANKS FOR YER HELP! I'LL JUST STAY BEHIND TO CLEAN UP A BIT!
G-G-GOOFY, YOU GO ON AHEAD! THIS WHOLE DOPEY THING'S GOT ME SUSPICIOUS! I'M GOING BACK TO CHECK OUT A H-H-HUNCH!
WH-WH-WH-WH-WHATEVER!
HA-HA-HA! NO DOPEY-ANY-MUM, BUT A WHOLE TON OF GOLD! THOSE TWO RUBES WERE LUCKY TO MAKE IT OUT ALIVE! HA-HA-HA!

HA-HA-HA! THE SECOND I SAW THOSE DOPES I KNEW I HAD ALL THE FREE LABOR I NEEDED!
YOU'RE NOT A GOVERNMENT AGENT AT ALL, ARE YOU, WILEY?
Uh... NOPE!
NOW, NOW! YOU WOULDN'T HIT AN OLD MAN, WOULD YOU?
NO, I WOULDN'T!
BUT I WILL TAKE THESE TWO BAGS OF GOLD AS A SHARE FOR GOOFY AND MYSELF!
YOU WILL NOT! I WORKED FOR THAT FAIR AND SQUARE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE DID ALL THE WORK!
DID NOT! YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT WAS MAKING ALL THAT STUFF UP? MY HEAD STILL HURTS!
NOT AS MUCH AS MINE, WILEY! AN YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAININ' TUH DO TUH THIS HERE PARK RANGER!
WHAT?
GOOF! WAY TO GO!

THE DUCK AND THE MOUSE SENT TO YOUR HOUSE!

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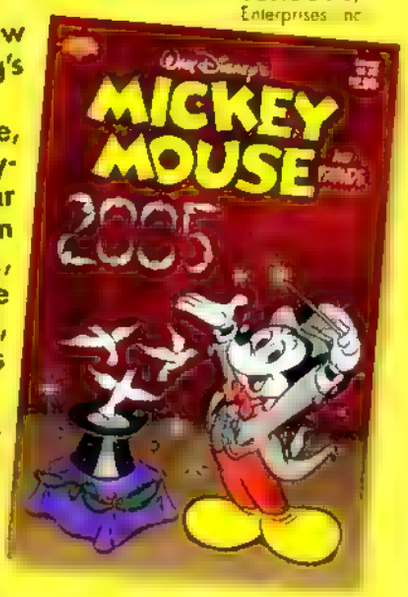

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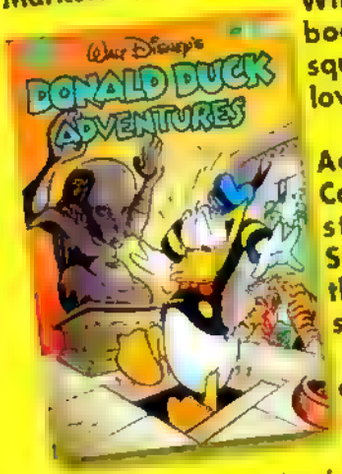

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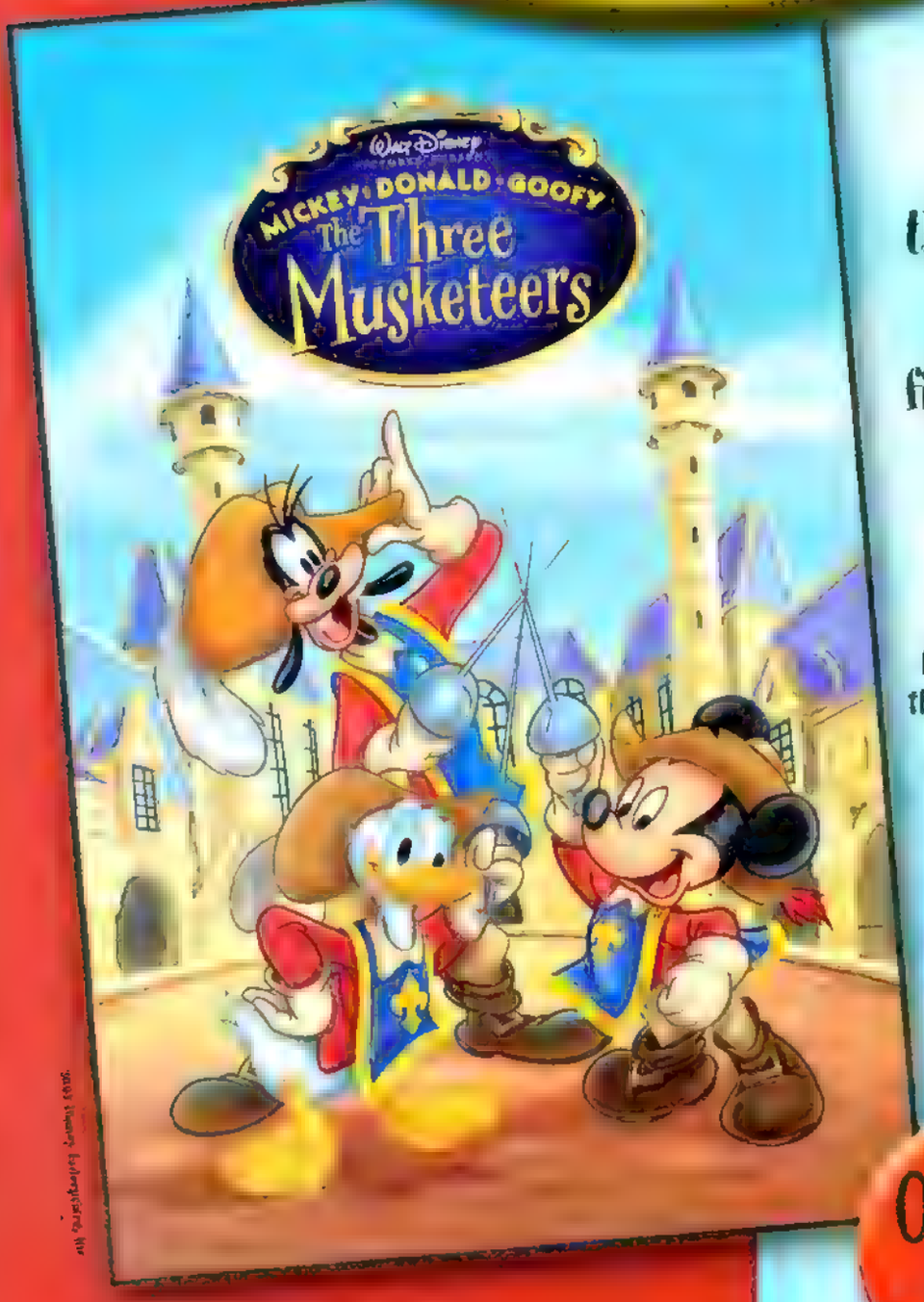

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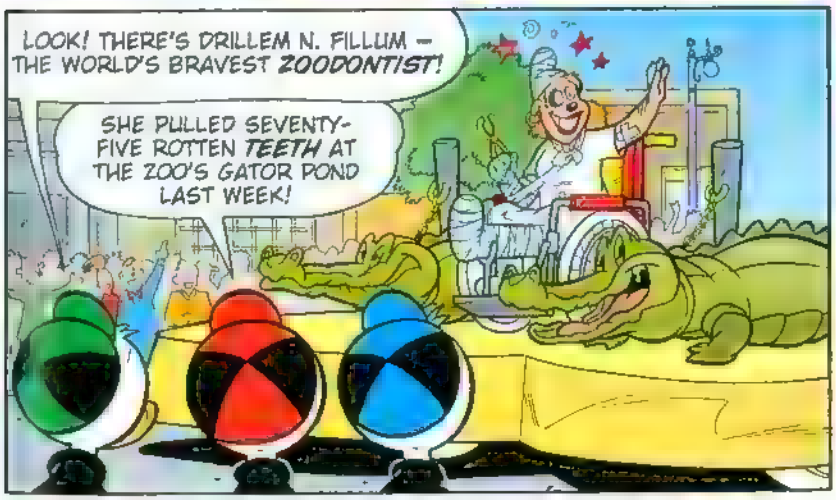
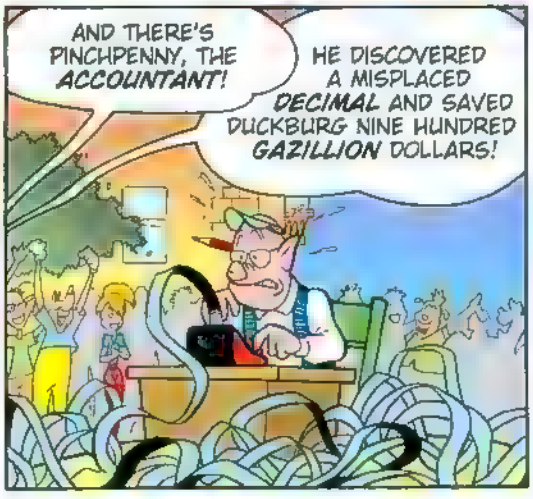
I MET RANGER PARKS HERE JUST OVER THE RIDGE! AN' I TOLD HIM ABOUT AGENT WILEY, DOPANIUM AND ALL THOSE POOR DOLPHINS!
AN' GUESS WHAT? RANGER PARKS SAYS THAT WILEY'S A CROOK AN' HE'S GOIN' TUH BE CHARGED WITH MISUSE OF AUTHORITY OR SOMETHIN'!
Oh, I CAN DO MORE THAN THAT! WILEY HERE HAS NO AUTHORIZATION TO MINE ANYTHING ON FEDERAL LAND!
BUT THAT'S NOT A CRIME, IS IT?
YES, AS A MATTER OF FACT IT IS!
SORRY, Mr. MOUSE, BUT I'LL HAVE TO CONFISCATE THAT GOLD, TOO! IT'S FEDERAL PROPERTY!
DON'T SWEAT IT BUDDY! NOW WE CAN GO BACK TO VACATIONIN'!
I SWEAR I DID IT ALL FOR THE DOLPHINS! FINDING THE GOLD WAS AN ACCIDENT!
IN THAT CASE YOU CAN RELAX, WILEY! SOME OF WHAT YOU'LL PAY IN TRESPASSING FINES MIGHT GO TO DEEP OCEANIC RESEARCH!

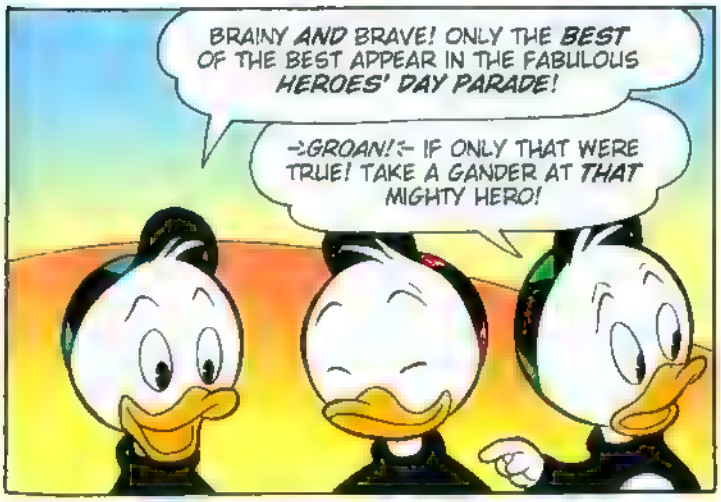
Walt Disney's

Donald Duck in ALMOST A HERO

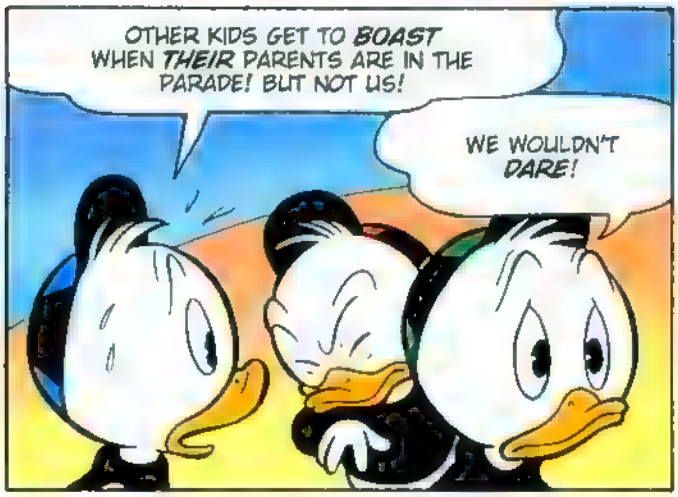
EVERY YEAR DUCKBURG HONORS ITS GREATEST HEROES WITH A PARADE —
OH, BOY! THERE'S HOT-FOOT HARRY!
THE FAMOUS FIREFIGHTER?
YEAH! HE RESCUED AN ENTIRE SORORITY FROM AN OUT-OF-CONTROL GAME OF HOT POTATO!
D/D 2000-017

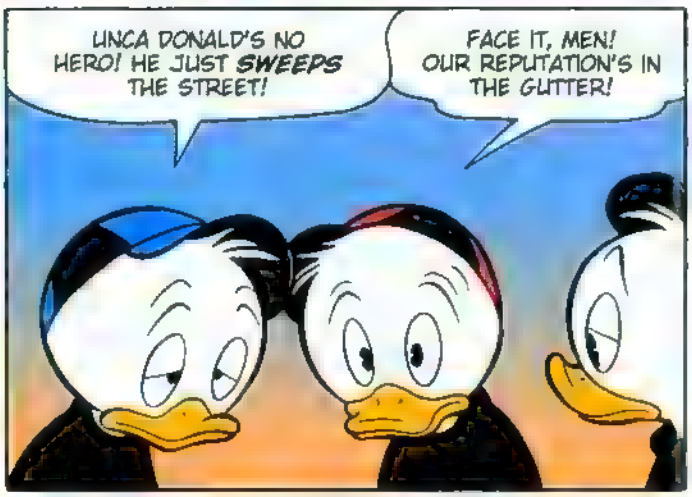

LOOK! THERE'S DRILLEM N. FILLUM — THE WORLD'S BRAVEST ZOODONTIST!
SHE PULLED SEVENTY-FIVE ROTTEN TEETH AT THE ZOO'S GATOR POND LAST WEEK!


AND THERE'S PINCHPENNY, THE ACCOUNTANT!
HE DISCOVERED A MISPLACED DECIMAL AND SAVED DUCKBURG NINE HUNDRED GAZILLION DOLLARS!

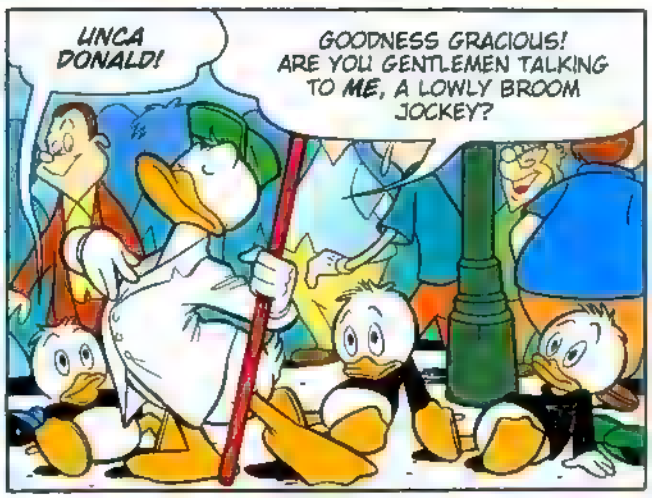

BRAINY AND BRAVE! ONLY THE BEST OF THE BEST APPEAR IN THE FABULOUS HEROES' DAY PARADE!
-GROAN!- IF ONLY THAT WERE TRUE! TAKE A GANDER AT THAT MIGHTY HERO!

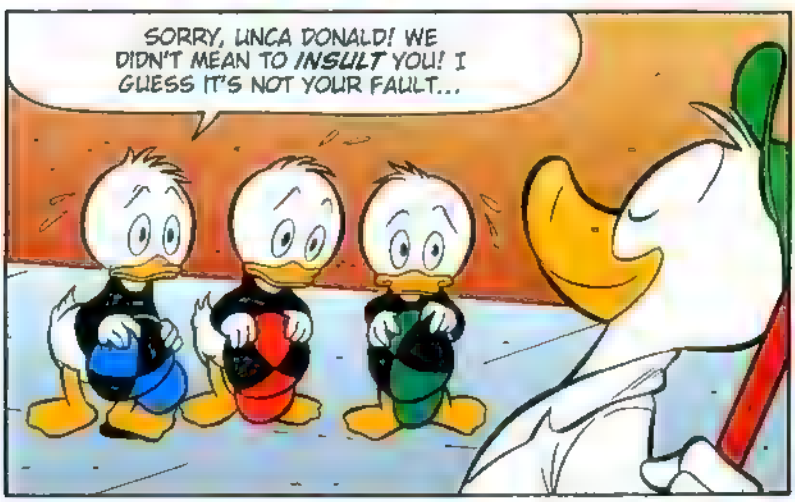
FOR A MOMENT, I SORTA FORGOT ABOUT UNCA DONALD!
AND, OH, WHAT A LOVELY MOMENT IT WAS!


OTHER KIDS GET TO BOAST WHEN THEIR PARENTS ARE IN THE PARADE! BUT NOT US!
WE WOULDN'T DARE!


UNCA DONALD'S NO HERO! HE JUST SWEEPS THE STREET!
FACE IT, MEN! OUR REPUTATION'S IN THE GUTTER!

THAT'S NOT ALL THAT'S GOING IN THE GUTTER, YOU HALF-PINT SNOBS!
SWOOSH


UNCA DONALD!
GOODNESS GRACIOUS! ARE YOU GENTLEMEN TALKING TO ME, A LOWLY BROOM JOCKEY?


SORRY, UNCA DONALD! WE DIDN'T MEAN TO INSULT YOU! I GUESS IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT...

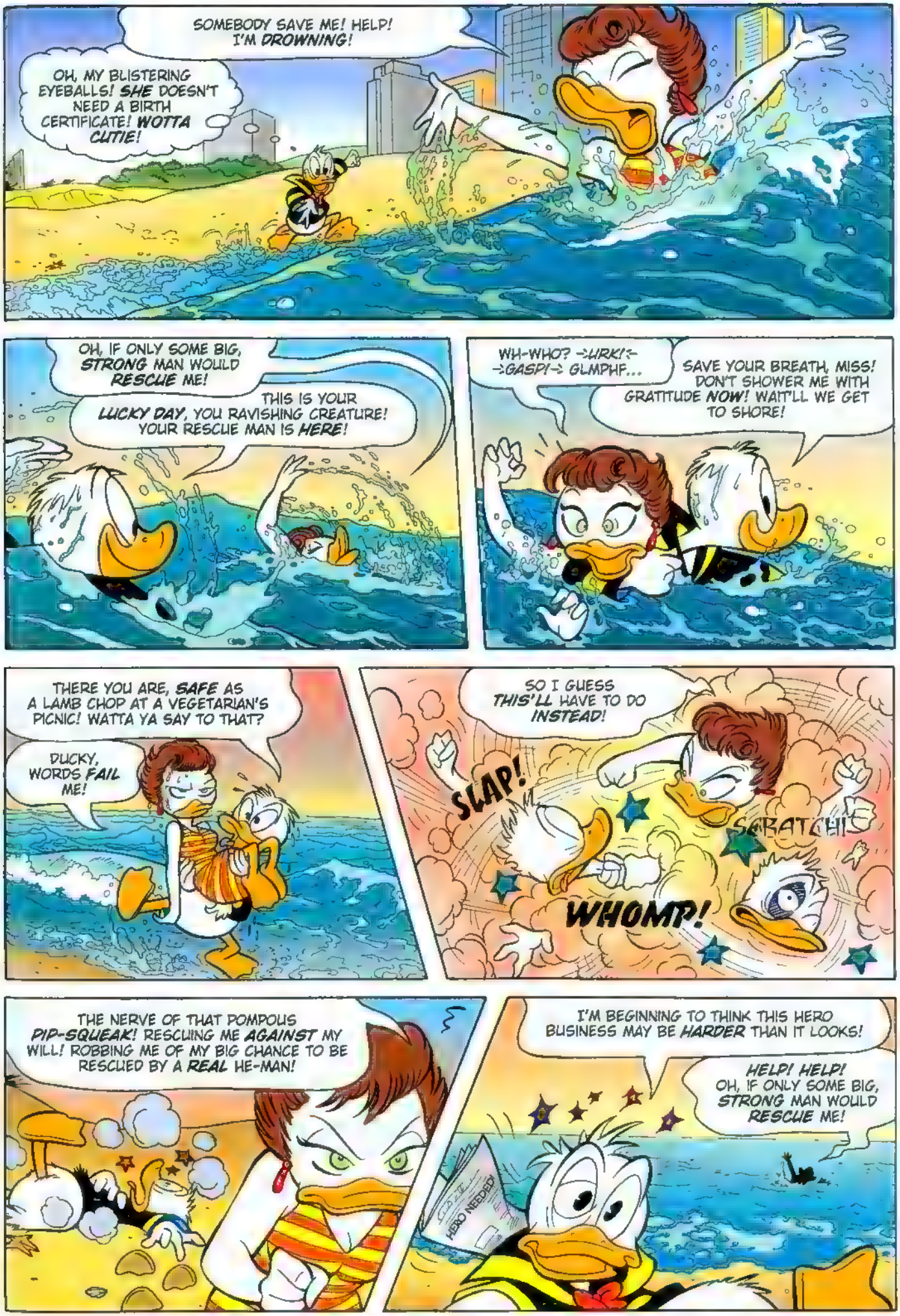
...YOU CAN'T BE A HERO!

ME, NOT A HERO? -SNORT!- NOW I'M INSULTED!
LOOK AT THESE RIPPLING MUSCLES! THIS NOBLE PROFILE! AND THE FEARLESS GLEAM OF MY STEELY-BLUE EYES!
VERY...UH... IMPRESSIVE, LINCA DONALD!
BUT IT TAKES MORE THAN LOOKS TO BE A HERO! YOU'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING COURAGEOUS!
SOMETHING MIRACULOUS!
SOMETHING STUPENDOUS!
AND YOU THINK I CAN'T DO ALL THAT WONDERFUL STUFF — AND MORE? OH, YE OF LITTLE FAITH!
FIE AND FOO ON BROOMS AND SUCH! I'M GOING INTO THE HERO BUSINESS!
INSTEAD OF CLEANING UP AFTER NEXT YEAR'S PARADE, I'LL BE THE MEDAL-DRAPED STAR OF THE WHOLE SHEBANG!
BUT, LINCA DONALD...
NOT NOW, KIDS! I'VE GOTTA FIND SOMEONE TO RESCUE! IF I HURRY, I CAN BE DONE BEFORE LUNCH!
BUT, LINCA DONALD...
SHOULDN'T WE TRY TO STOP HIM?
TOO LATE! BESIDES LINCA DONALD'S NOT BRAVE ENOUGH TO DO ANYTHING REALLY DANGEROUS — I HOPE!

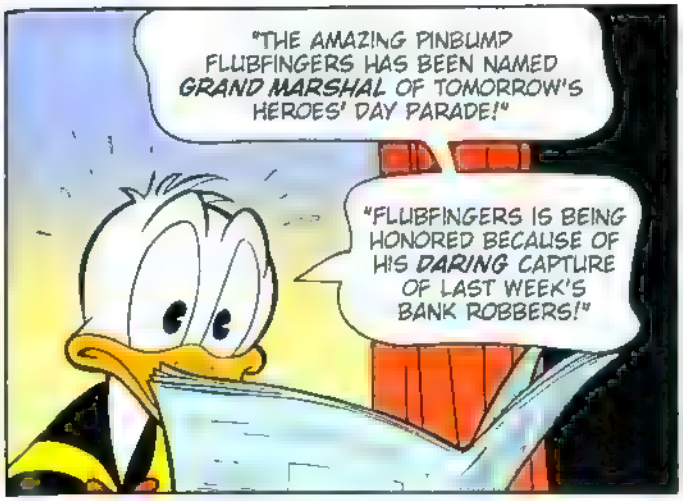
HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL – AT LEAST AT FIRST!
BECOMING A HERO CAN'T BE TOO HARD! THOSE PUFF-HEADED PARADE UPSTARTS WERE JUST LUCKY!
THEY WERE JUST IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME! AND, IF I KEEP MY EYES AND EARS OPEN, I WILL BE TOO!
HERO NEEDED
HELP! HELP!
AH! THE VOICE OF OPPORTUNITY!
RUNAWAY BUGGY! STOP IT! SAVE MY DARLINGS! MY PRECIOUS BUNDLES OF JOY!
DON'T WORRY, BUD! DONALD DUCK – ACTION ACE AND ALL-AROUND HERO – IS READY FOR..
...ANYTHOOF!
KER-WHAP!
GALLOPING GRAVITY! THAT MAN'S BABIES PACK A WALLOP HARDER THAN...
HONK HONK
...A TEN-TON TRUCK!

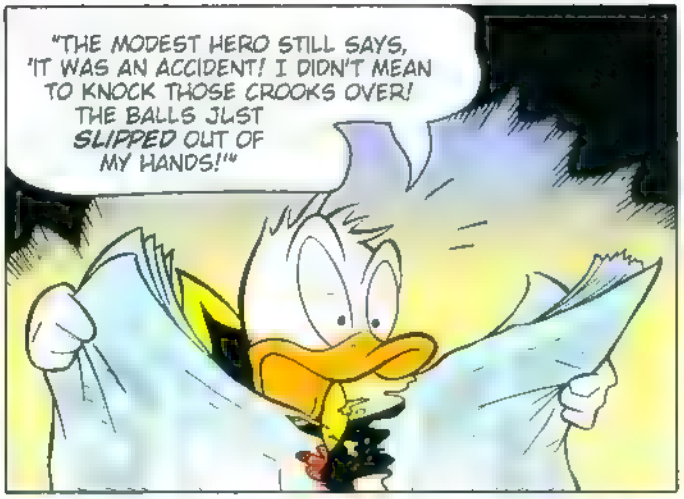
OH, MY BLABBERING MOUTH! WHEN WILL I LEARN TO SHUT UP?
SCREEECH
RAMMP
-:WAK!:-
THIS HOT ROD JUST BECAME A CONVERTIBLE!
WE MADE IT! I'M A HERO AFTER ALL! AT LEAST I THINK I AM! THOSE BABIES ARE -:GULP!:- MIGHTY QUIET! I HOPE THEY'RE NOT...
...BOWLING BALLS?!
THUMP
THUD
AMAZING! I'M STILL IN ONE PIECE! MY HEAD MUST BE AS HARD AS ONE OF THOSE BOWLING BALLS!
SAY! I WONDER WHERE THOSE THREE-FINGERED BOOBY TRAPS LANDED ANYWAY!

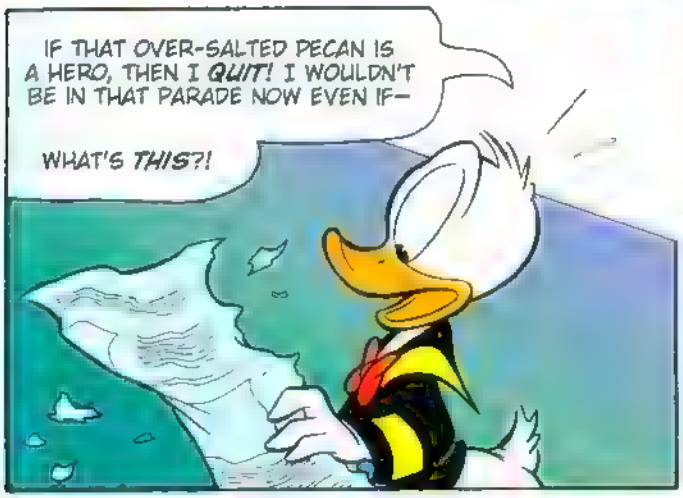
THIS SCENE CENSORED AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOCIETY TO PROTECT FOWL FOLK FROM FOUL DEEDS...
YE GADS! THE CARNAGE! THE DESTRUCTION! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
OH, SURE! NEVER BETTER! WE HEROES THRIVE ON THIS STUFF YOU KNOW!
NOT YOU, YA CLUMSY KLUTZ! I WAS TALKING TO MY PRECIOUS LITTLE DARLINGS HERE!
THE BOWLING BALLS?
UNCOUTH IGNORAMUS! THESE AREN'T JUST BOWLING BALLS! THEY'RE MODERN MIRACLES OF PIN-KNOCKING PERFECTION!
I WAS TAKING 'EM IN TO GET POLISHED AND PAMPERED WHEN THEY SLIPPED AWAY FROM ME!
MY POOR, BRUISED BABIES! DID THE MEAN MAN'S HARD HEAD DENT YOUR DELICATE EPIDERMIS?
IF THAT GUY'S NOT NUTS THEN I'M A DOUBLE-FROSTED FRUITCAKE!
=HMPH!= ALL THAT TROUBLE FOR A BUNCHA OVERGROWN MARBLES IN DISGUISE! WELL, FROM NOW ON I'M NOT RISKING MY NECK...
...FOR ANYONE WHO'S NOT LIVING, BREATHING, AND CARRYING A BIRTH CERTIFICATE IN TRIPLICATE TO PROVE IT!
AND MAYBE EVEN THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO...
HELP! HELP!

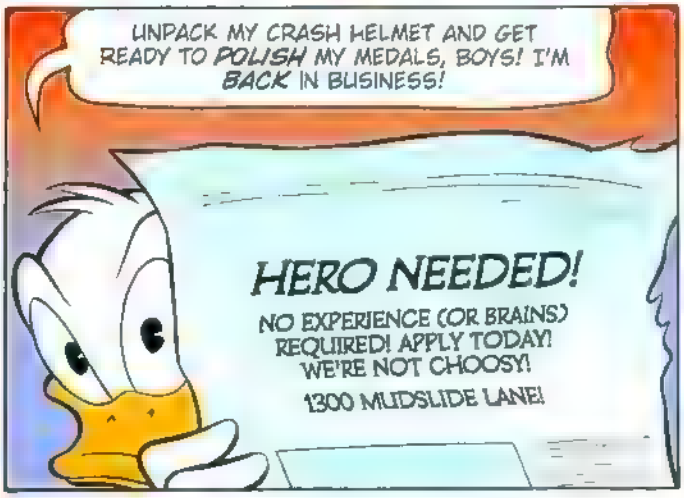

SOMEBODY SAVE ME! HELP! I'M DROWNING!
OH, MY BLISTERING EYEBALLS! SHE DOESN'T NEED A BIRTH CERTIFICATE! WOTTA CUTIE!
OH, IF ONLY SOME BIG, STRONG MAN WOULD RESCUE ME!
THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY, YOU RAVISHING CREATURE! YOUR RESCUE MAN IS HERE!
WH-WHO? -:URK!:- -:GASP!:- GLMPHF...
SAVE YOUR BREATH, MISS! DON'T SHOWER ME WITH GRATITUDE NOW! WAIT'LL WE GET TO SHORE!
THERE YOU ARE, SAFE AS A LAMB CHOP AT A VEGETARIAN'S PICNIC! WATTA YA SAY TO THAT?
DUCKY, WORDS FAIL ME!
SO I GUESS THIS'LL HAVE TO DO INSTEAD!
SLAP!
SCRATCH!!
WHOMP!
THE NERVE OF THAT POMPOUS PIP-SQUEAK! RESCUING ME AGAINST MY WILL! ROBBING ME OF MY BIG CHANCE TO BE RESCUED BY A REAL HE-MAN!
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THIS HERO BUSINESS MAY BE HARDER THAN IT LOOKS!
HELP! HELP! OH, IF ONLY SOME BIG, STRONG MAN WOULD RESCUE ME!
HERO NEEDED

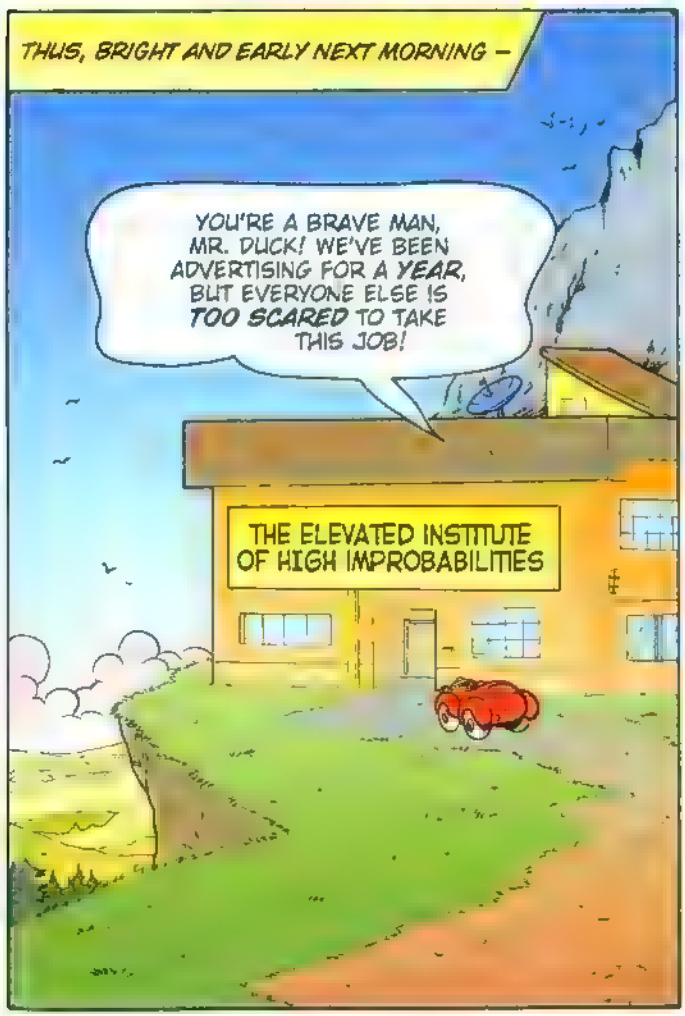
THE NEXT DAY DONALD TRIES AGAIN! NO CHALLENGE IS TOO BIG – OR TOO SMALL – FOR OUR ASPIRING HERO –
DON'T WORRY, LADY! I'LL GET YOUR CAT DOWN!
YOU'RE A TRUE HERO, MR. DUCK! EVERYONE ELSE REFUSED TO RESCUE MY LITTLE MEOW FACE...
...JUST BECAUSE HE'S A FULL-GROWN LEOPARD!
=GULP!=
OR DID I FORGET TO MENTION THAT?
STRIPES
STRIPES
ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER HEROIC ATTEMPT! DONALD TRIES TO SAVE A WOMAN AS SHE JUMPS FROM A BURNING BUILDING, BUT –
GOODNESS! WHERE DID THAT CUTE LITTLE SAILOR BOY GO? I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO CATCH ME!
A MERE 360 HEROIC DISASTERS LATER –
WHAT NOW?
DON'T ASK!
GIVE UP, UNCA DONALD! YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO BE A HERO EVERY DAY FOR ALMOST A YEAR NOW! YOU'VE RUN OUT OF TIME!
YEAH! THE PARADE'S TOMORROW...
...SEE?
OH, MY STARS AND LITTLE COMETS!
BOWLING HERO HONORED IN PARADE
BANK ROBBERS BOWLED OVER

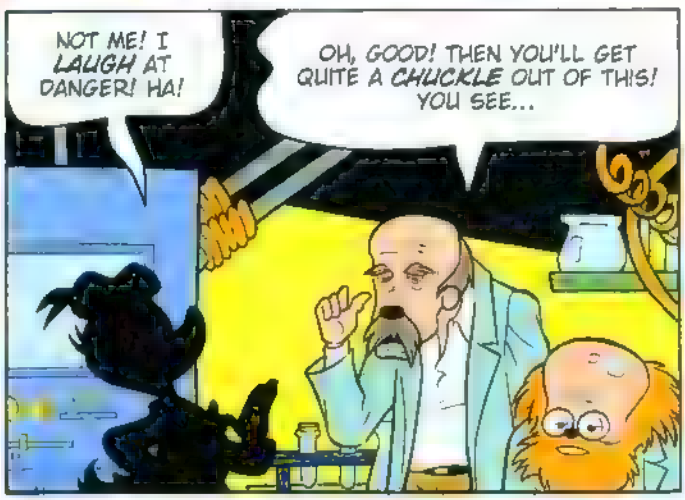

"THE AMAZING PINBUMP FLUBFINGERS HAS BEEN NAMED GRAND MARSHAL OF TOMORROW'S HEROES' DAY PARADE!"
"FLUBFINGERS IS BEING HONORED BECAUSE OF HIS DARING CAPTURE OF LAST WEEK'S BANK ROBBERS!"

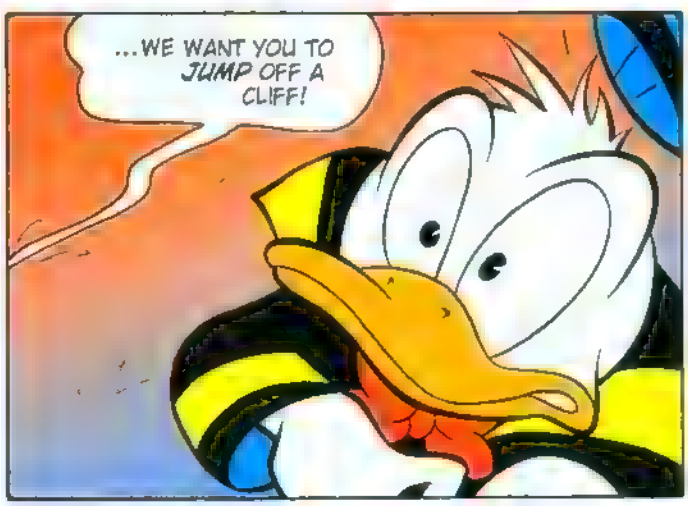

"THE MODEST HERO STILL SAYS, 'IT WAS AN ACCIDENT! I DIDN'T MEAN TO KNOCK THOSE CROOKS OVER! THE BALLS JUST SLIPPED OUT OF MY HANDS!'"


IF THAT OVER-SALTED PECAN IS A HERO, THEN I QUIT! I WOULDN'T BE IN THAT PARADE NOW EVEN IF—
WHAT'S THIS?!

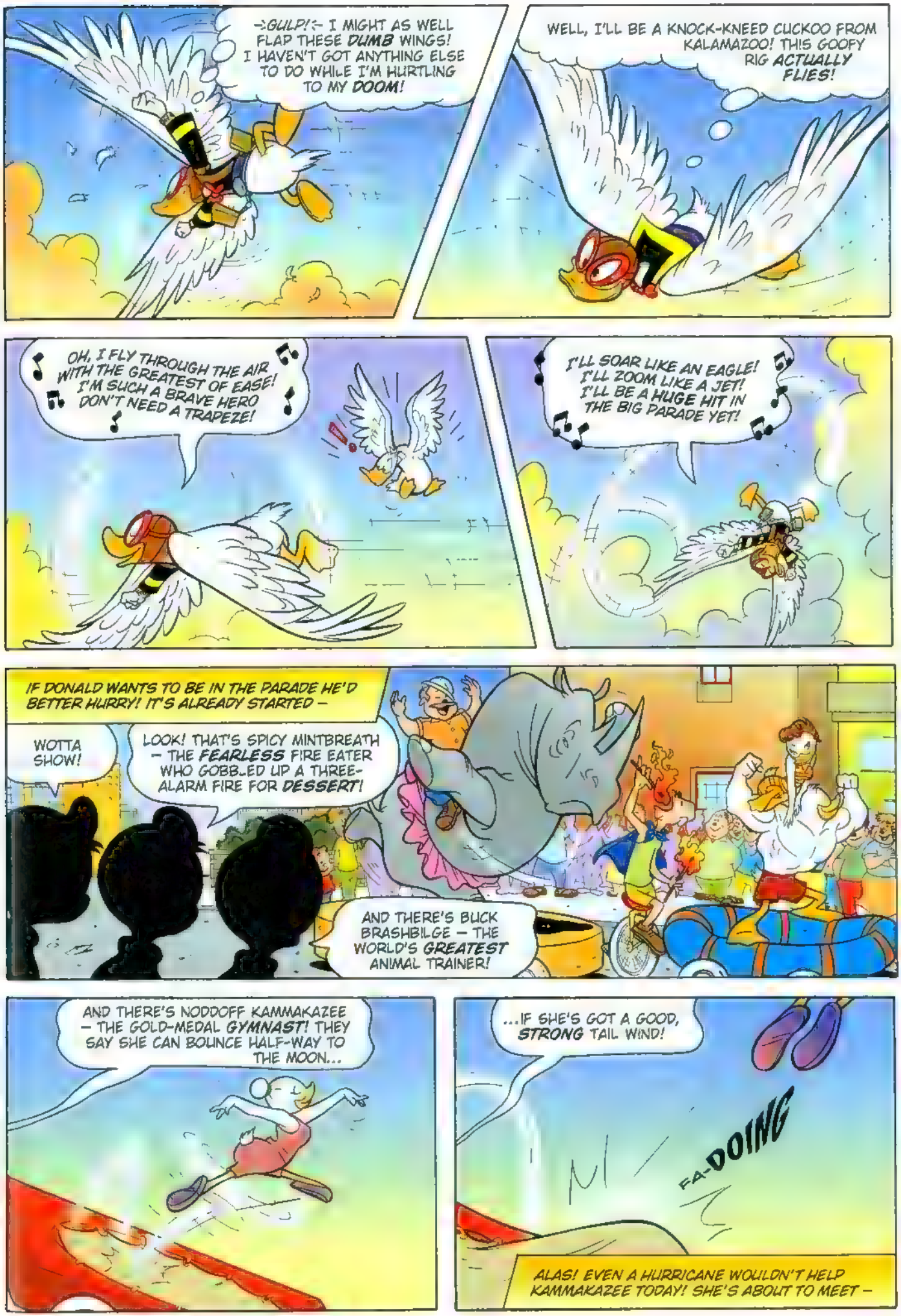

UNPACK MY CRASH HELMET AND GET READY TO POLISH MY MEDALS, BOYS! I'M BACK IN BUSINESS!
HERO NEEDED!
NO EXPERIENCE (OR BRAINS) REQUIRED! APPLY TODAY! WE'RE NOT CHOOSY!
1300 MUDSLIDE LANE!

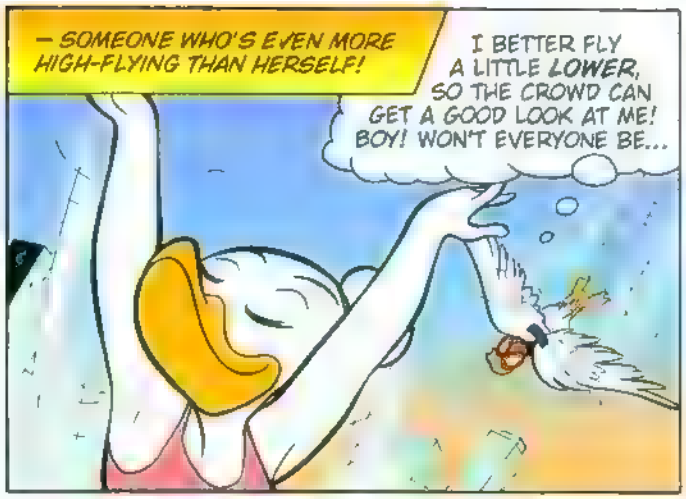

THUS, BRIGHT AND EARLY NEXT MORNING —
YOU'RE A BRAVE MAN, MR. DUCK! WE'VE BEEN ADVERTISING FOR A YEAR, BUT EVERYONE ELSE IS TOO SCARED TO TAKE THIS JOB!
THE ELEVATED INSTITUTE OF HIGH IMPROBABILITIES

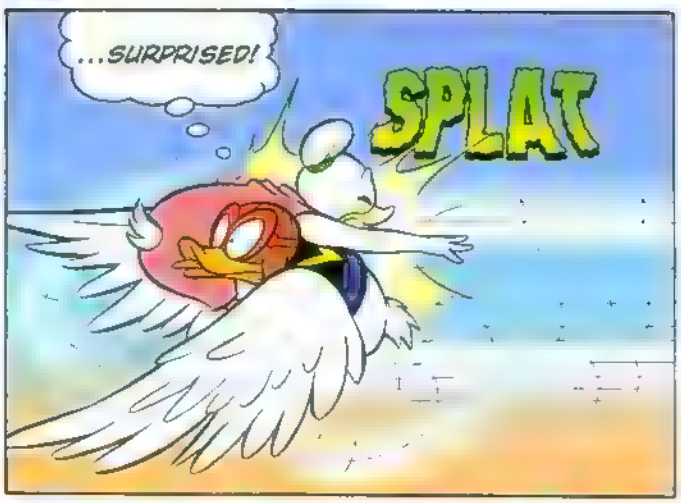

NOT ME! I LAUGH AT DANGER! HA!
OH, GOOD! THEN YOU'LL GET QUITE A CHUCKLE OUT OF THIS! YOU SEE...

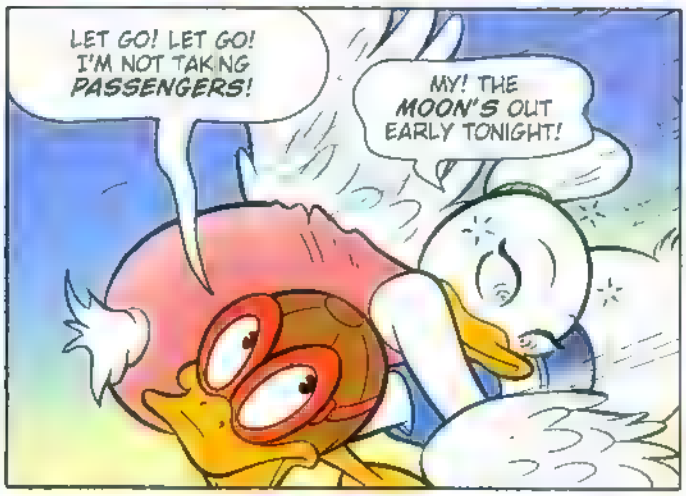

...WE WANT YOU TO JUMP OFF A CLIFF!

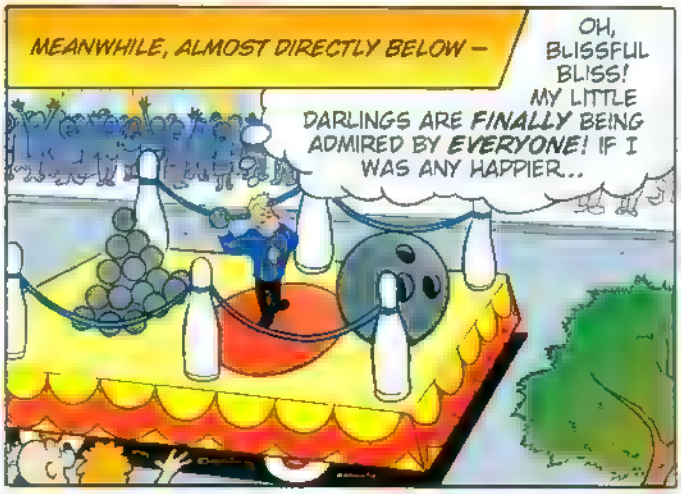
WEARING THIS ANTI-GRAVITY SUIT YOU'LL PROBABLY BE THE FIRST MAN TO FLY LIKE A BIRD!
PROBABLY?!
YES! WELL... UH, WE'RE ALMOST SURE IT'LL WORK!
THE ODDS ARE IN OUR FAVOR! WE CAN'T BE WRONG EVERY TIME!
MAYBE I SHOULD GO HOME AND PRACTICE JUMPING OFF MY FRONT PORCH FIRST!
THIS IS NO TIME TO JOKE, MR. DUCK!
WE'D DO IT OURSELVES, BUT WE'RE NOT AS BRAVE AS YOU!
NO! WAIT! I'M NOT AS BRAVE AS ME EITHER!
HM! HOW INTERESTING! THERE SEEMS TO BE A SLIGHT ERROR IN OUR THEORY!
RIGHT! HE'S FALLING LIKE A ROCK!
AM I DEAD YET? I CAN'T BEAR TO LOOK!
-OOF!-
BOING
NOPE! NOT YET!
SPRO
ING

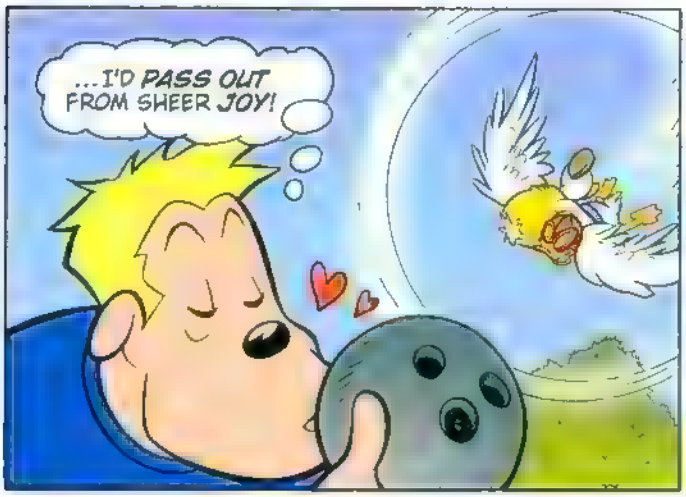

-GULP!- I MIGHT AS WELL FLAP THESE DUMB WINGS! I HAVEN'T GOT ANYTHING ELSE TO DO WHILE I'M HURTLING TO MY DOOM!
WELL, I'LL BE A KNOCK-KNEED CUCKOO FROM KALAMAZOO! THIS GOOFY RIG ACTUALLY FLIES!
OH, I FLY THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE! I'M SUCH A BRAVE HERO DON'T NEED A TRAPEZE!
I'LL SOAR LIKE AN EAGLE! I'LL ZOOM LIKE A JET! I'LL BE A HUGE HIT IN THE BIG PARADE YET!
IF DONALD WANTS TO BE IN THE PARADE HE'D BETTER HURRY! IT'S ALREADY STARTED -
WOTTA SHOW!
LOOK! THAT'S SPICY MINTBREATH - THE FEARLESS FIRE EATER WHO GOBBLED UP A THREE-ALARM FIRE FOR DESSERT!
AND THERE'S BUCK BRASHBILGE - THE WORLD'S GREATEST ANIMAL TRAINER!
AND THERE'S NODDOFF KAMMAKAZEE - THE GOLD-MEDAL GYMNAST! THEY SAY SHE CAN BOUNCE HALF-WAY TO THE MOON...
...IF SHE'S GOT A GOOD, STRONG TAIL WIND!
FA-DOING
ALAS! EVEN A HURRICANE WOULDN'T HELP KAMMAKAZEE TODAY! SHE'S ABOUT TO MEET -

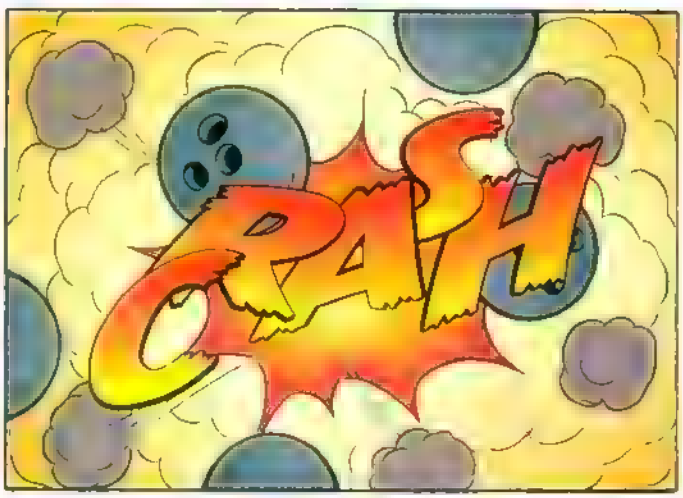

– SOMEONE WHO'S EVEN MORE HIGH-FLYING THAN HERSELF!
I BETTER FLY A LITTLE LOWER, SO THE CROWD CAN GET A GOOD LOOK AT ME! BOY! WON'T EVERYONE BE...

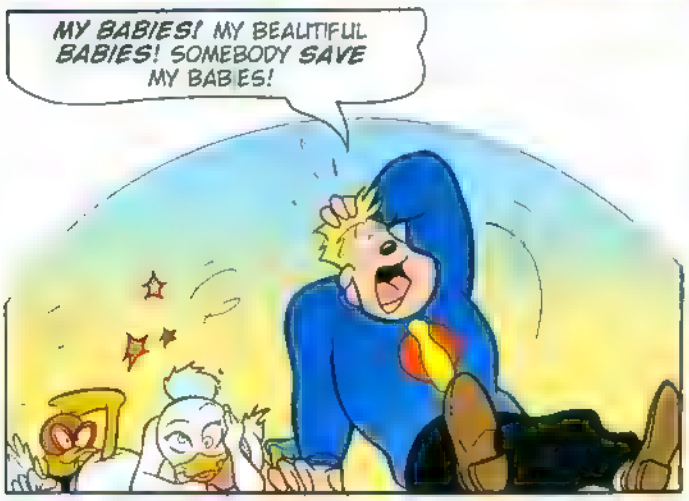

...SURPRISED!
SPLAT

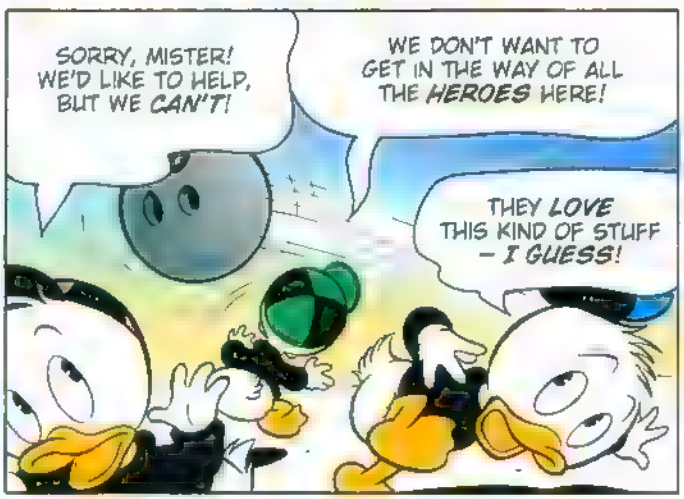

LET GO! LET GO! I'M NOT TAKING PASSENGERS!
MY! THE MOON'S OUT EARLY TONIGHT!


MEANWHILE, ALMOST DIRECTLY BELOW –
OH, BLISSFUL BLISS! MY LITTLE DARLINGS ARE FINALLY BEING ADMIRED BY EVERYONE! IF I WAS ANY HAPPIER..


...I'D PASS OUT FROM SHEER JOY!


CRASH

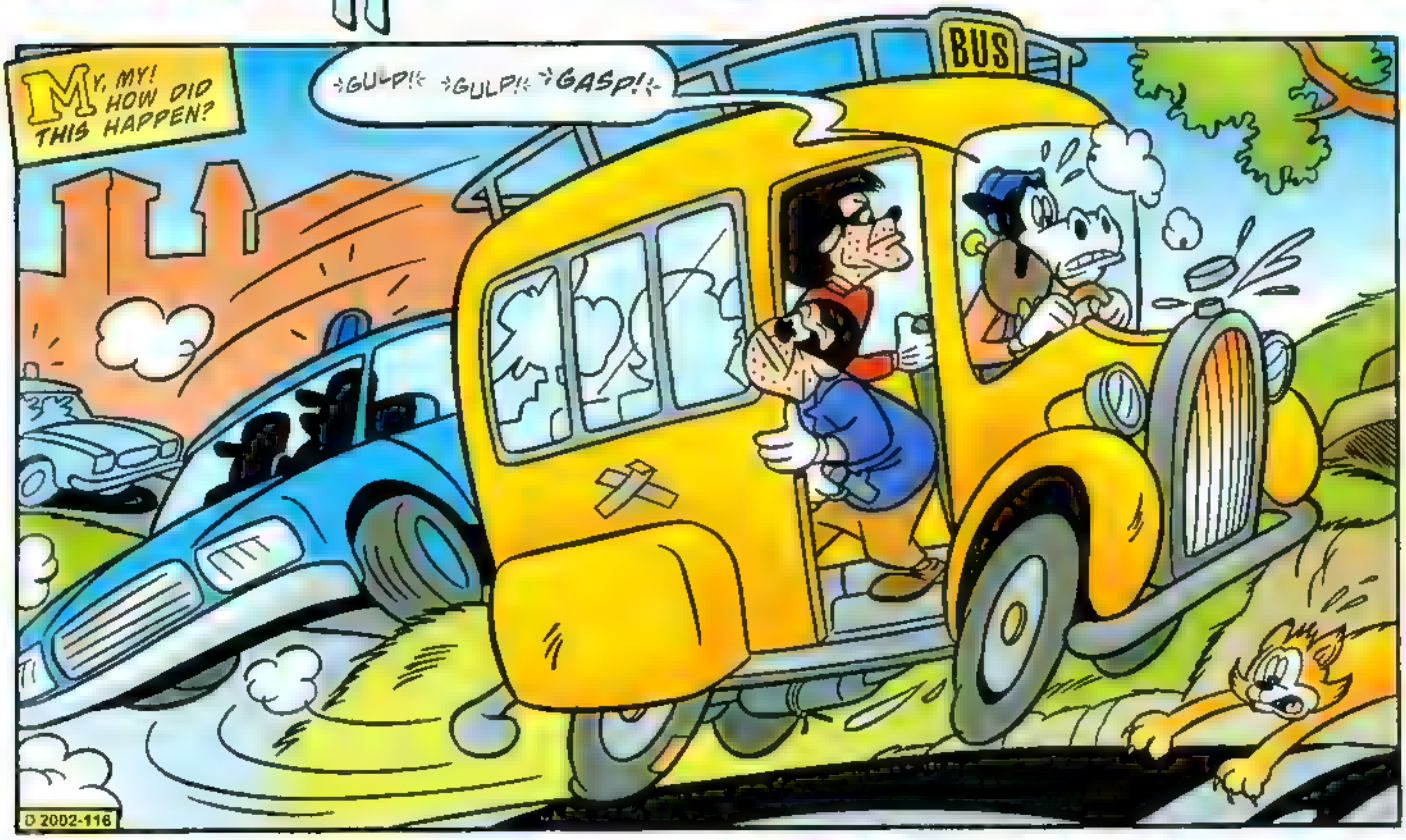

MY BABIES! MY BEAUTIFUL BABIES! SOMEBODY SAVE MY BABIES!

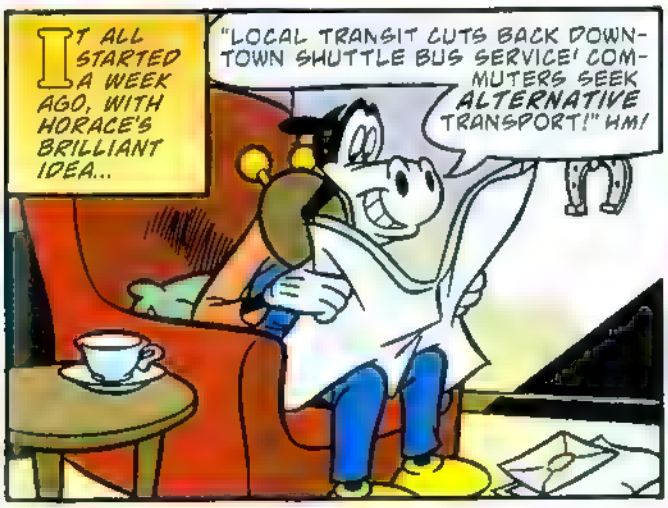

SORRY, MISTER! WE'D LIKE TO HELP, BUT WE CAN'T!
WE DON'T WANT TO GET IN THE WAY OF ALL THE HEROES HERE!
THEY LOVE THIS KIND OF STUFF – I GUESS!

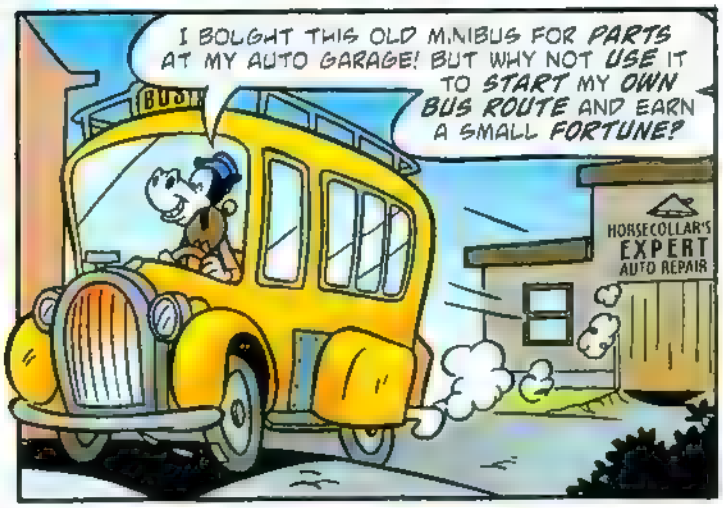
LOVE? WELL, MAYBE NOT QUITE!
SAVE ME! SAVE ME! I'M TOO YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL TO D.E!
AREN'T WE ALL?
I'M NOT REALLY AFRAID! I'M JUST ALLERGIC TO FLYING BOWLING BALLS!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! ME TOO!
ME THREE!
AND THEN, JUST WHEN IT LOOKS LIKE THINGS COULDN'T GET ANY WORSE —
YIKES!
THWUMP!
RAMPAGING RHINO! OUTTA THE WAY! OUTTA THE WAY!
I'M TRYING! I'M TRYING!
RIP
-GASP!- HOW'LL I EVER EXPLAIN THIS TO MY TAILOR?
WELL, THIS WILL BE AN INTERESTING WAY TO DIE!
OH, YES! -GULP!- IT'S SO MUCH BETTER THAN DYING OF BOREDOM!
NOBODY'S DYING IF I CAN HELP IT!
-GRUNT!- YOU BOYS HAVE PUT ON A LITTLE WEIGHT, HAVEN'T YOU?
UNCA DONALD?!?

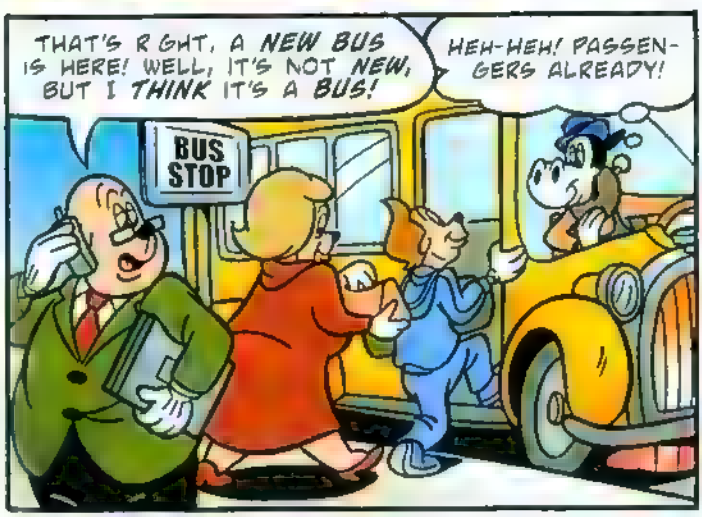
MEANWHILE –
NO, PENELOPE! NOT IN THERE! ANYWHERE BUT THERE!
LA DUCK FIREWORKS FACTOR
TWO SECONDS LATER –
WHOOSH!
YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, LINCA DONALD! YOU'RE A HERO!
AM I?
WELL, MAYBE SO! BUT DO ME A FAVOR, BOYS...
...LET'S KEEP IT OUR SECRET! I DON'T THINK ANYONE IS IN THE MOOD TO HEAR ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW!
KA-BOOM
SAVE ME! IT'S YOUR TURN!
NO IT ISN'T! YOU SAVE ME!
HEROES' DAY PARADE
-:SHRIEK!:-
-:PANIC!:-
-:TERROR!:-
MY BABIES! MY POOR BABIES!

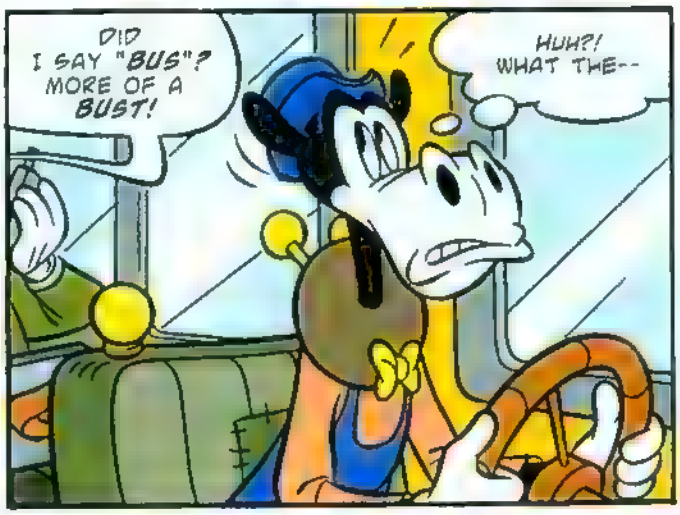
Walt Disney's Horace Horsecollar in all aboard the RUMBOR BUS



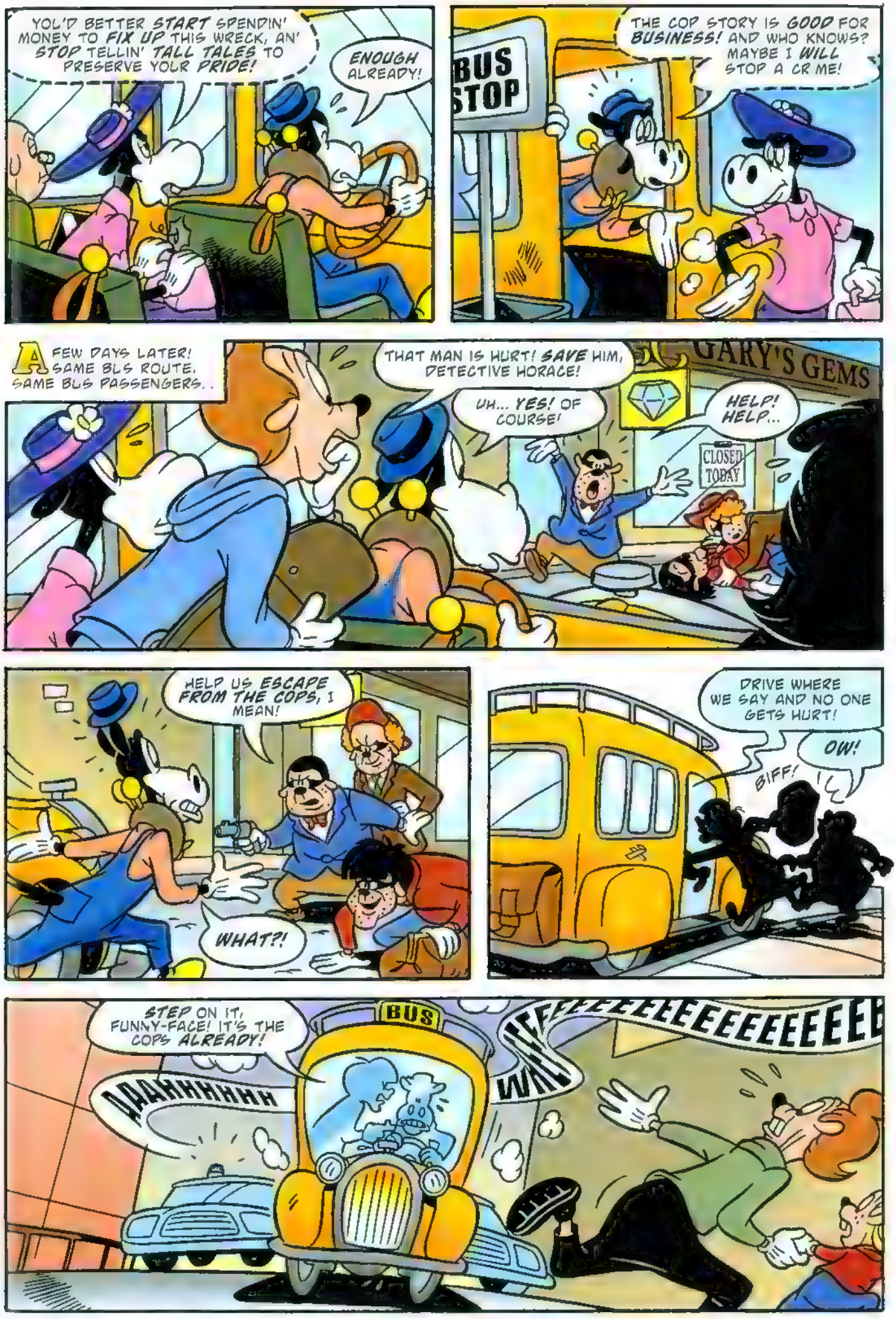

IT ALL STARTED A WEEK AGO, WITH HORACE'S BRILLIANT IDEA...
"LOCAL TRANSIT CUTS BACK DOWNTOWN SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE! COMMUTERS SEEK ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT!" HM!


I BOUGHT THIS OLD MINIBUS FOR PARTS AT MY AUTO GARAGE! BUT WHY NOT USE IT TO START MY OWN BUS ROUTE AND EARN A SMALL FORTUNE?
HORSECOLLAR'S EXPERT AUTO REPAIR

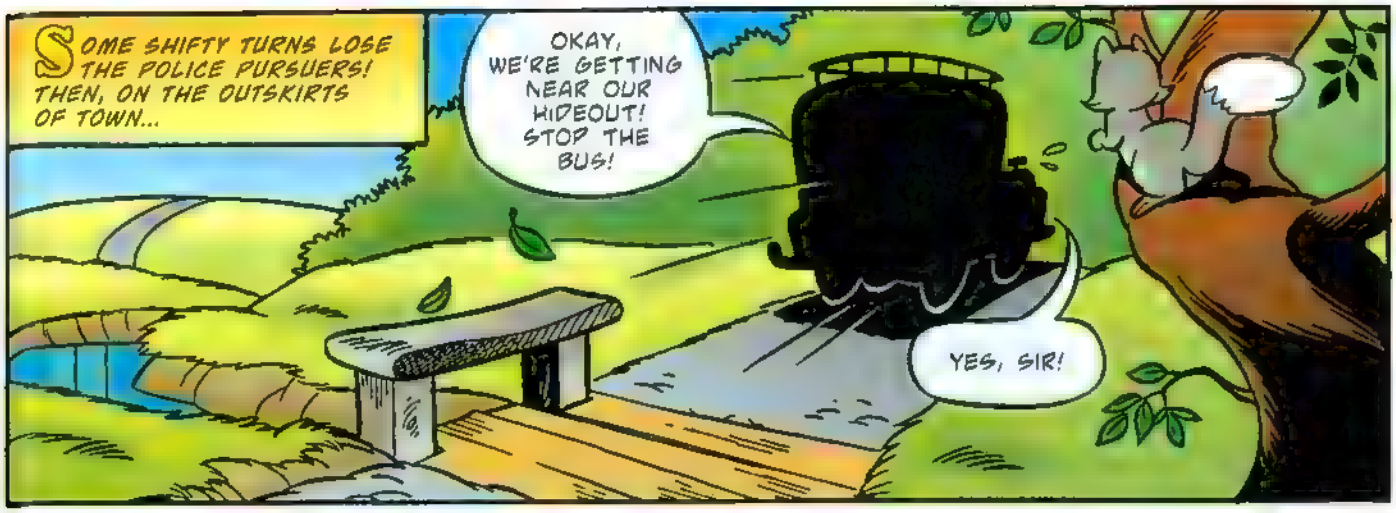


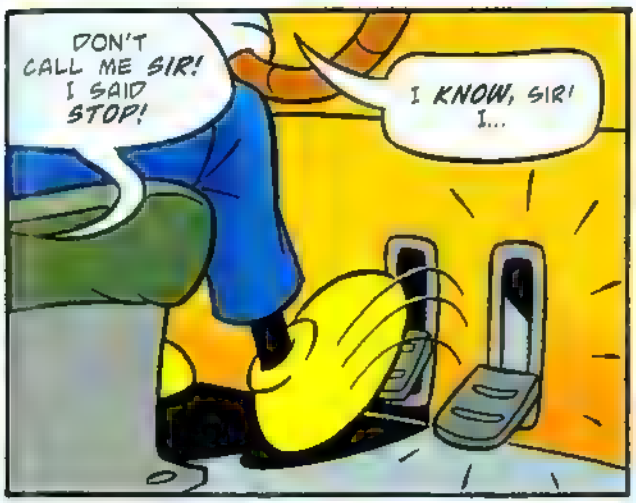


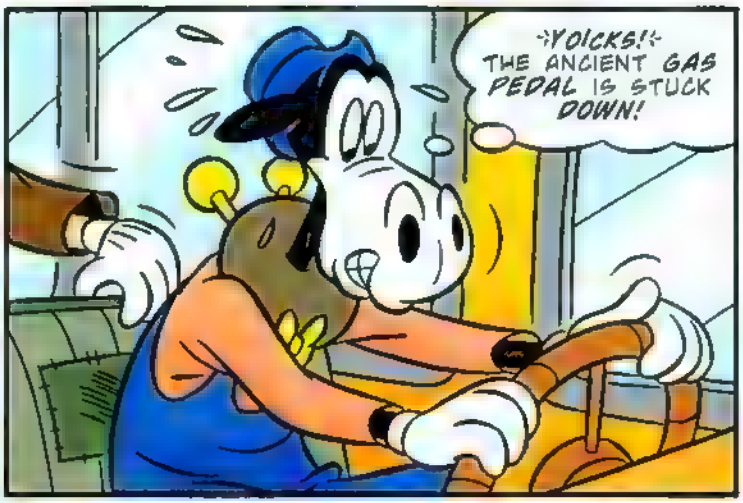
NO, I'M NOT GOING TO RIDE IT EVERY DAY! NOT WHEN IT'S SUCH A WRECK!
I'VE BEEN N PUBLIC BATHROOMS WITH A BETTER SMELL!
THEY . THEY DON'T LIKE IT!
BUT THEY HAVE TO LIKE IT IF I'M GONNA MAKE REGULAR CUSTOMERS OUT OF THEM!
:-)HMM!:-) I KNOW!
PEOPLE, I REALIZE THE BUS LOOKS A BIT BEAT! BUT IF YOU CAN KEEP A SECRET, I'LL TELL YOU WHY!
BUS STOP
"SEE, I'M NOT JUST A BUS DRIVER! I'M DETECTIVE HORACE, UNDERCOVER COP! DRIVING A BEAT-UP BUS INSTEAD OF A NEW ONE HELPS ME STAY LOW-KEY AND TAKE CROOKS BY SURPRISE!"
"NOW--:SHH!:- LET NO OTHER DETECTIVES KNOW I TOLD YOU OF THIS! IT COULD LAND ME IN HOT WATER BACK AT THE... UH... PLACE WHERE DETECTIVES WORK!"
YOU MEAN THE POLICE STATION, "DETECTIVE" HORACE?
BUS STOP
:AHEM: ER YES! THAT'S RIGHT, CITIZEN!
DEFECTIVE HORACE IS MORE LIKE IT! I'D UNMASK YOU IF I DIDN'T NEED A L.FT TO MY JOB!
THANKS, I THINK!

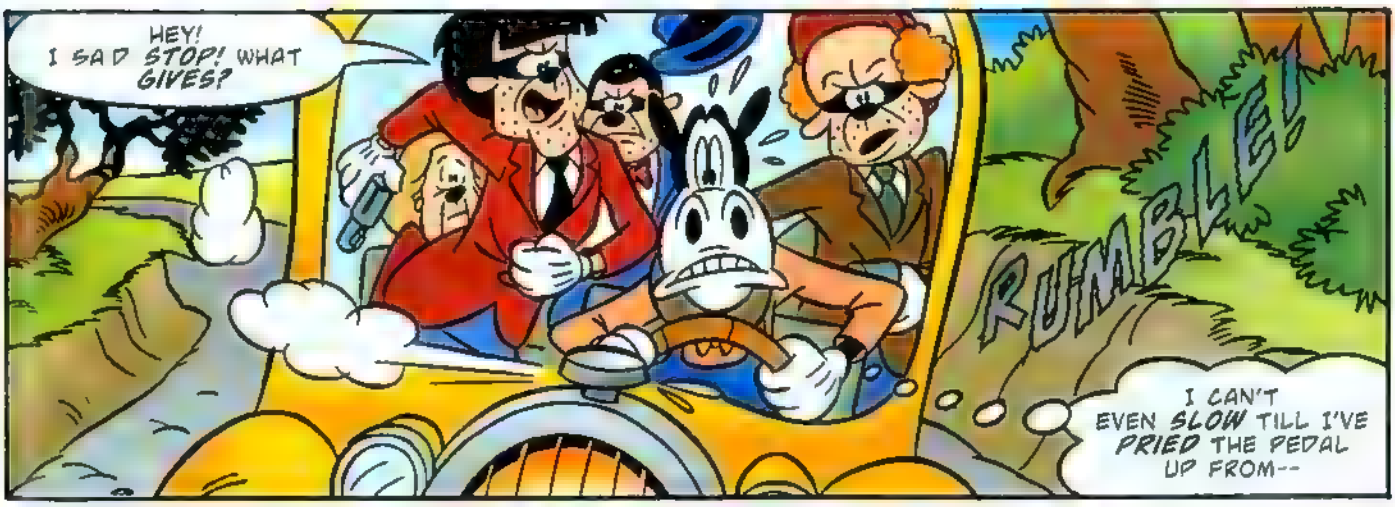

YOU'D BETTER START SPENDIN' MONEY TO FIX UP THIS WRECK, AN' STOP TELLIN' TALL TALES TO PRESERVE YOUR PRIDE!
ENOUGH ALREADY!
BUS STOP
THE COP STORY IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS! AND WHO KNOWS? MAYBE I WILL STOP A CR ME!
A FEW DAYS LATER! SAME BUS ROUTE, SAME BUS PASSENGERS..
THAT MAN IS HURT! SAVE HIM, DETECTIVE HORACE!
UH... YES! OF COURSE!
GARY'S GEMS
HELP! HELP...
CLOSED TODAY
HELP US ESCAPE FROM THE COPS, I MEAN!
WHAT?!
DRIVE WHERE WE SAY AND NO ONE GETS HURT!
OW!
BIFF!
STEP ON IT, FUNNY-FACE! IT'S THE COPS ALREADY!
BUS
AAAHHHHHH
WHEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

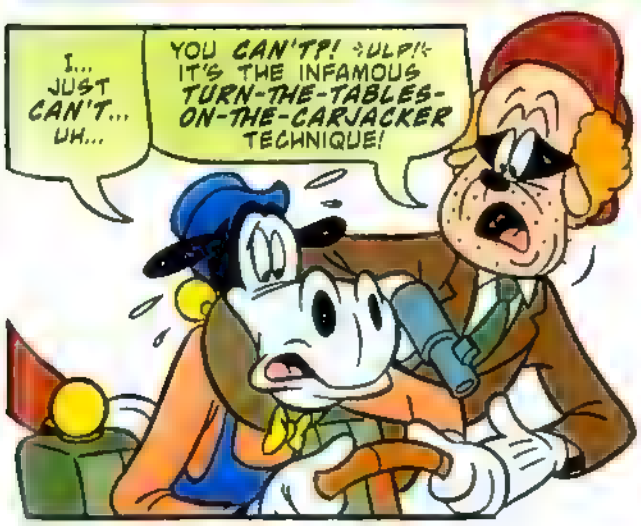
THERE MUSTA BEEN A SILENT BURGLAR ALARM AT THE GEM STORE WE ROBBED!
PLEASE DON'T HURT ME! PLEASE DON'T HURT ME!
DON'T BE SCARED, "DETECTIVE"! I'LL SAVE YOU!
OW!
OW! OW!
WHAP!
WHAP!
WHAP!
GRAB HER HANDS!
GRAB HER PURSE!
I'LL TIE HER UP!
GRRR!
OW! SHE BIT ME!
NOW DON'T YOU GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS!
YEAH! KEEP YOUR GOOGLY EYES ON THE ROAD!
YES! YES! ANYTHING YOU SAY!
WHEN'S HORACE GONNA MAKE HIS MOVE, DUDE?!
HE'S AS BROKEN-DOWN AS THIS BUS! I'M TELLING YOU, WE'RE DOOMED!


SOME SHIFTY TURNS LOSE THE POLICE PURSUERS! THEN, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...
OKAY, WE'RE GETTING NEAR OUR HIDEOUT! STOP THE BUS!
YES, SIR!


DON'T CALL ME SIR! I SAID STOP!
I KNOW, SIR! I...


YOICKS! THE ANCIENT GAS PEDAL IS STUCK DOWN!


HEY! I SAID STOP! WHAT GIVES?
RUMBLE!
I CAN'T EVEN SLOW TILL I'VE PRIED THE PEDAL UP FROM--


I... JUST CAN'T... UH...
YOU CAN'T?! ULP! IT'S THE INFAMOUS TURN-THE-TABLES-ON-THE-CARJACKER TECHNIQUE!

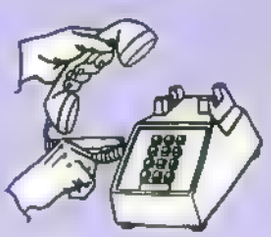
I READ ABOUT IT IN CRIME JOURNAL! INSTEAD OF STOPPING, THE VICTIM SPEEDS UP! NOW WE CAN'T HURT HIM OR THERE'LL BE AN ACCIDENT!
WHAT?! THAT'S THIS GUY'S PLAN?
GASP!

UH .. WHY, YEAH! THAT'S EXACTLY MY PLAN!
THE ONLY QUESTION NOW IS-- W-WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
I DON'T LIKE THIS! I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL!
WOW! DID YOU SEE HOW HE ALMOST HIT THAT TREE?!
WHICH ONE?
WE DON'T WANT TO DIE!
YEAH! PLEASE SLOW DOWN!
WE'LL DO ANY-THING!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT, BOYS! FIRST THING TO DO IS DROP THOSE GUNS!
NNNNGH!
POP!
AND SO...
HEY, MAC! HEY, JOE! DETECTIVE HORACE, BRINGING IN A COUPLE OF PERPS FOR YOU!
THANKS! BUT WHO ARE MAC AND JOE?

The Case of the Frantic Fan

It was raining, so I was spendin' the night in the office readin' my comics. That's when I got the call. Guy was in a panic. Said he needed to find the hottest comic books, toys, videos, games, and other cool gear – and he needed 'em fast. I didn't ask questions. I just told the poor stiff to punch in his ZIP code, sit back, and let me do the rest. Couple seconds later, I was rattlin' off store names and addresses for the comic book specialty shops in his area.

When he was through thankin' me, he asked how much he owed me for the tip. I told him what I tell everyone: it's free. I'm telling ya, that was one happy fan. Told him if he ever needed me again to phone 1-888-COMIC-BOOK, or point-&-click on www.diamondcomics.com/csls the next time he was on his computer surfin' the 'Net. I'll be there.



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Phone toll-free: 1-888-COMIC-BOOK
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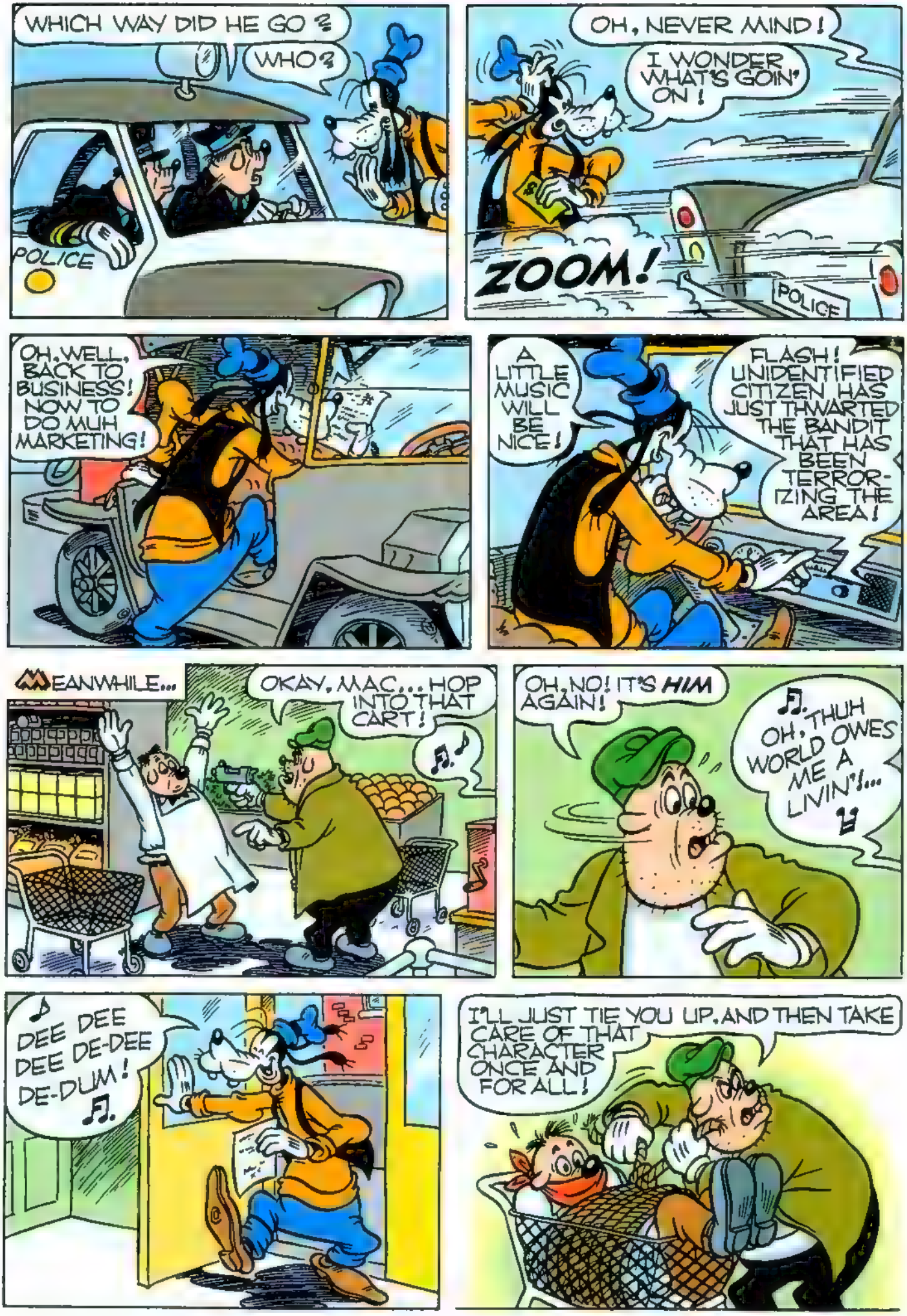
EVENING...
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU STILL FIBBED TO YOUR PASSENGERS!
HORSECOLLAR'S EXPERT AUTO REPAIR
IT'S A MOOT POINT! LOOKS LIKE MY MIN.BUS HAS HAD IT!
BUT I WAS A BIG FAKE, SO I SUPPOSE IT SERVES ME RIGHT! SIGH! WELL, BACK TO MY USUAL JOB AS A MASTER MECHANIC—
Thanks for Saving Us! DETECTIVE HORACE!
SURPRISE!
AW, THANKS, GUYS! BUT. . I'M NO DETECTIVE! I JUST MADE THAT UP, SO YOU'D RIDE MY BUS EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A WRECK!
OH, WE ALWAYS FIGURED YOU WEREN'T A DETECTIVE! BUT YOURS WAS THE ONLY BUS ON THE ROUTE WE NEEDED!
BEEP-BEEP!
LOOK! YOU OUTSMARTED THOSE CROOKS, KEPT US FROM CRASHING, AND KEPT YOUR WITS TOO, MAN! SO WE'RE GRATEFUL JUST THE SAME!
GEE! THANKS!
CAN'T TALK NOW! AT A PARTY! REMEMBER THAT GUY WHO PRETENDED HE WAS A COP? WELL, TURNS OUT HE'S A HERO AFTER ALL!

WALT DISNEY
GOOFY
in
THE UNKNOWN HERO
LET'S SEE... FIRST I BETTER GET SOME GAS FOR MUH AUTO... THEN DO MUH MARKETING... AND THEN GO TO THUH BANK! NOTHIN' LIKE BEIN' SYSTEMATICAL!
FLASH! WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO REPORT THAT A BANDIT IS BURGLARIZING THE AREA!
OH, IF I GOT MUH HANDS ON HIM, HE'D BE A GONER! YUP! I'D FIX HIM!
LET'S SEE... WHUT WAS I GONNA DO? OH YEAH! FIRST GO TO THUH GAS STATION!
WHILE AT THE GAS STATION...
THIS IS LIKE TAKIN' CANDY FROM A BABY!
OIL

FILL'ER UP! I'LL GET THUH WIND-SHIELD!
BEEP!
BEEP!
I'LL GET RID OF THIS CHARACTER FAST!
AW! THUH DOOR'S STUCK AGAIN!
I ALWAYS HAVE TO KICK IT!
OOF!
NEVER MIND THUH TIRES ...AND THUH OIL IS OKAY!
NOW TO GIVE THUH WINDSHIELD A FEW SQUIRTS OF THIS DIRT-OFF!
SQUIRT!
IF I CAN JUST KICK THIS OFF ...THERE!
HELP! POLICE! ROBBER!... QUICK!

WHAT HAPPENED? OH, YEAH... I GOT CLOBBERED, AND THERE'S THE GUY WHO KICKED ME!
I'LL FIX HIM, BUT GOOD!
GAWRSH! NOW THIS SPRAYER IS STUCK!
PESKY NEW INVENTIONS!
OOOPS! OH, I'M SORRY!
AHHAA!
SQUIRT!
MUH APOLOGIES, SIR! HERE'S THUH MONEY FOR THUH GASOLINE!
THERE'S THE STATION, JOE!
WAA-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A
POLICE
A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A
OH, NO!
I WONDER WHAT'S EATIN' HIM! HE WOULDN'T TAKE THUH GAS MONEY!


WHICH WAY DID HE GO?
WHO?
POLICE
OH, NEVER MIND!
I WONDER WHAT'S GOIN' ON!
ZOOM!
POLICE
OH, WELL, BACK TO BUSINESS! NOW TO DO MUH MARKETING!
A LITTLE MUSIC WILL BE NICE!
FLASH! UNIDENTIFIED CITIZEN HAS JUST THWARTED THE BANDIT THAT HAS BEEN TERROR-IZING THE AREA!
MEANWHILE...
OKAY, MAC... HOP INTO THAT CART!
OH, NO! IT'S HIM AGAIN!
OH, THUH WORLD OWES ME A LIVIN'!...
DEE DEE DEE DE-DEE DE-DUM!
I'LL JUST TIE YOU UP, AND THEN TAKE CARE OF THAT CHARACTER ONCE AND FOR ALL!

OH, WHAT A CUTE LI'L FELLER! LEARNIN' TO TALK, EH?
GLUGGLE... SMFST... GLUG!
JUST KEEP TRYIN'! YUK! SOMEDAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TALK AS GOOD AS ME!
SMFFT! GLUB! GLOOGLE!
THERE! SO FAR SO GOOD!
NOW IF I CAN JUST GET THIS GAG OFF!
HELP! POLICE! ROBBER! QUICK!
♪♫
I'M GONNA GET HIM THIS TIME, BUT GOOD!
SPECIAL
LET'S SEE NOW... BUTTER, PEACHES, MILK...
BUMP!
ERKS!
OOPS!

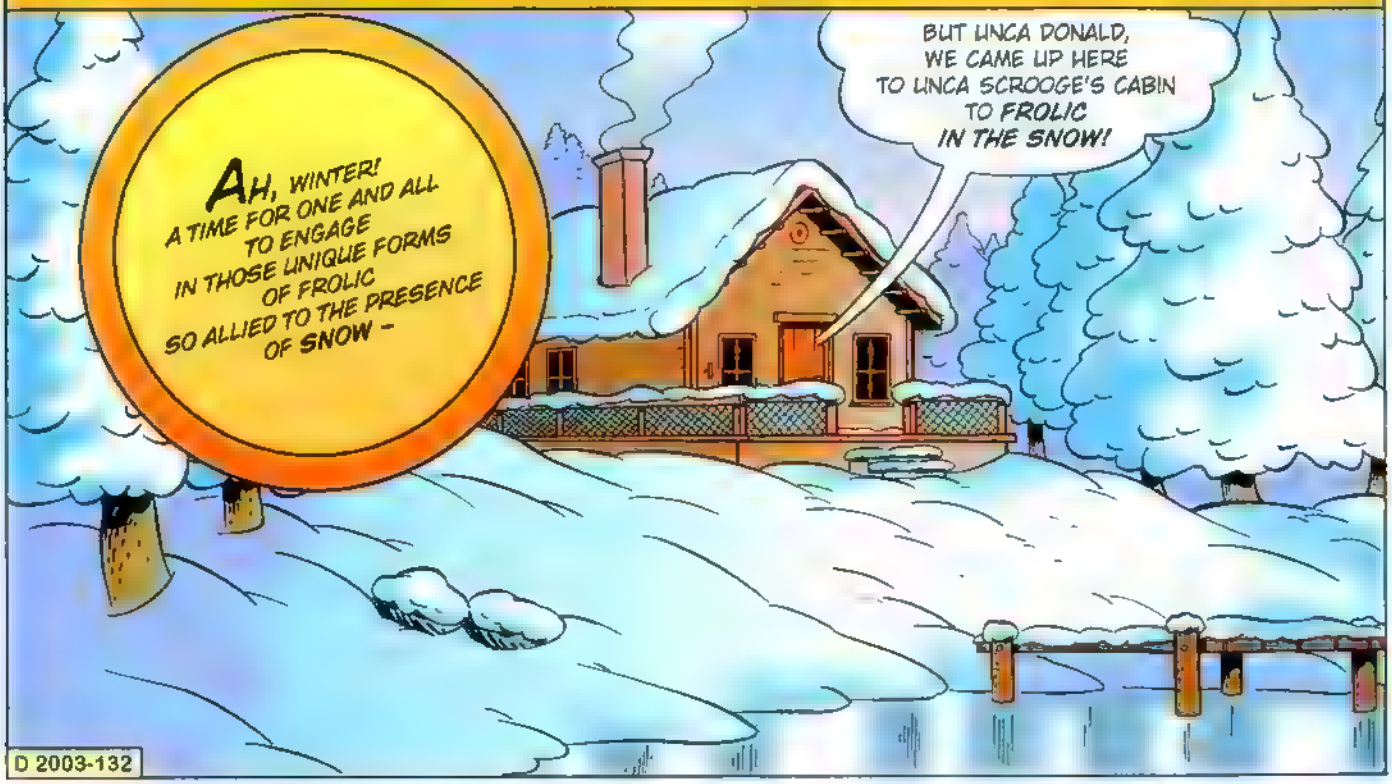
TWEET! TWEET!
OH, NOW LOOK WHAT I'VE DONE! TSK, TSK!
SOMETIMES I THINK I'M ALL THUMBS!
WA-A-A-A-A
OH-OH! THE SIREN! THE COPS ARE COMIN'!
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! (GULP!) THIS DAY IS TURNIN' INTO A NIGHTMARE!
THERE! JUST AS GOOD AS NEW!
SPECIAL
OH-OH! IT'S GETTIN' LATE! I BETTER GO TO THUH BANK BEFORE IT CLOSES!

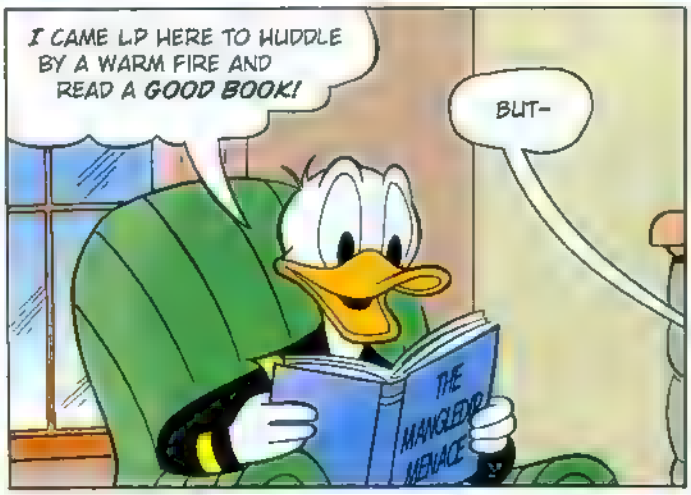
MEANWHILE...
ALL RIGHT... STAY WHERE YOU ARE... THIS IS A HOLDUP!
BANK
OH, GOOD! IT'S STILL OPEN!
BANK
CLONK!
WHOOPS! OH, I'M SORRY!
EXCUSE MY CLUMSINESS! HERE, LET ME HELP YOU PICK UP YOUR MONEY!
TWEET!
HUH?
OH, NO! NOT YOU AGAIN!
GRAB HIM!
FWEET!
FWEET!
GRAB ME? BUT GEE, IT WAS AN ACCIDENT! HONEST!
GOODY! THE POLICE!

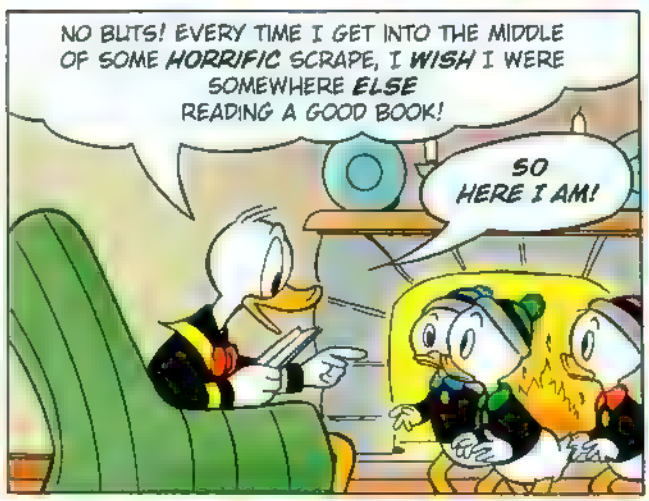
I GIVE UP! JUST DON'T LET HIM NEAR ME! SAVE ME! PLEASE, I BEG YOU! I'VE NEVER HAD IT SO ROUGH!
?
GET THE CUFFS ON HIM!
I DON'T GET IT!
I'D BETTER DO MY BANKIN' TOMORROW... WHEN IT ISN'T SO CROWDED AND CRAZY!
BANK
WHERE DID HE GO?
WHERE'S THE HERO?
LATER...
SHUCKS! SOMEBODY UNKNOWN CAUGHT THAT BANDIT! THERE GOES MUH CHANCE TO BE A HERO!
UNKNOWN HERO CAPTURES BANDIT!
IF I'D HAVE SEEN HIM I COULD HAVE CAUGHT HIM, TOO! I'D HAVE GRABBED HIM AROUND THUH NECK AN'...
FLIPPED HIM OVER... OUCH!
THUD!
(GULP!) GUESS IT'S A GOOD THING I DIDN'T MEET UP WITH THAT BANDIT... HE'S ROUGH!

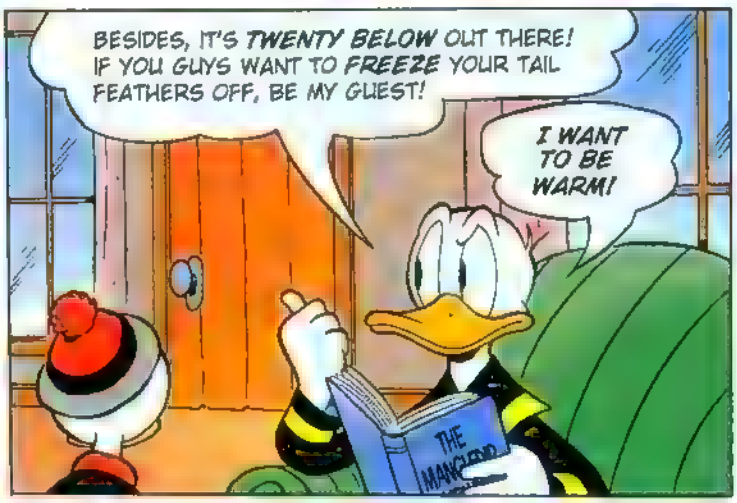
Walt Disney's DONALD DUCK

• HOT SHOTS •

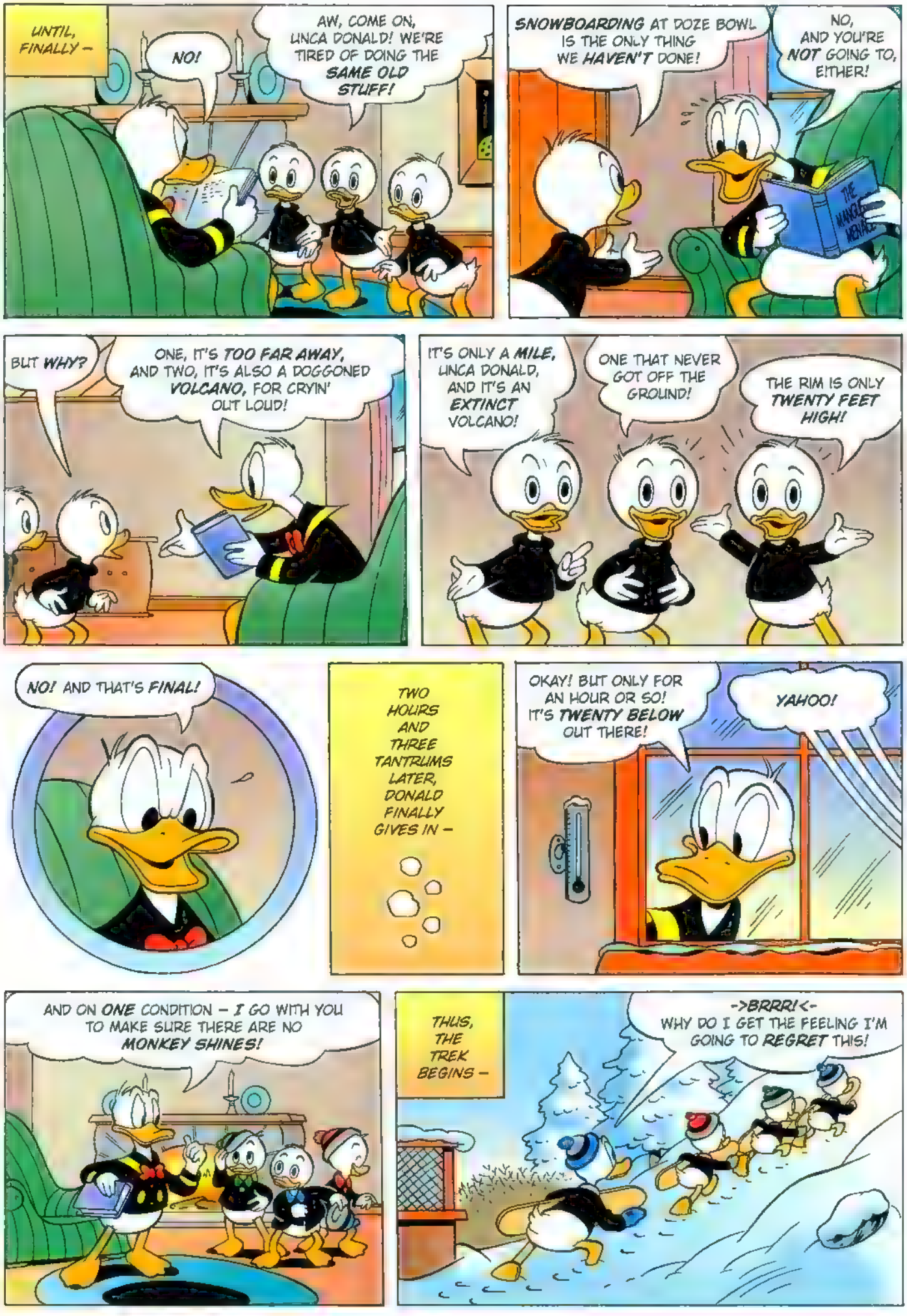

AH, WINTER! A TIME FOR ONE AND ALL TO ENGAGE IN THOSE UNIQUE FORMS OF FROLIC SO ALLIED TO THE PRESENCE OF SNOW –
BUT UNCA DONALD, WE CAME UP HERE TO UNCA SCROOGE'S CABIN TO FROLIC IN THE SNOW!
D 2003-132




NO BUTS! EVERY TIME I GET INTO THE MIDDLE OF SOME HORRIFIC SCRAPE, I WISH I WERE SOMEWHERE ELSE READING A GOOD BOOK!
SO HERE I AM!



AND SO, WHILE DONALD HUDDLES, THE BOYS SPEND THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS FROLICKING IN THE SNOW –
SLEDDING –
LAST ONE TO THE LAKE IS A ROTTEN EGG!
SEZ YOU!
ICE SKATING –
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING? DRAGGING ANCHORS?
HAVING SNOWBALL FIGHTS –
TAKE THAT, BARON VON CRUMMY!
SPLAT
AND YOU TAKE THIS, COUNT CUTPURSE!
SPLUF
ICE FISHING –
NUTS! SIX HOURS AND ALL WE'VE CAUGHT IS A RUSTY TIN CAN!
BUILDING SNOWMEN –
WELL, THAT MAKES SIX OF THEM!


UNTIL, FINALLY –
NO!
AW, COME ON, UNCA DONALD! WE'RE TIRED OF DOING THE SAME OLD STUFF!
SNOWBOARDING AT DOZE BOWL IS THE ONLY THING WE HAVEN'T DONE!
NO, AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO, EITHER!
THE MANGLE MENACE
BUT WHY?
ONE, IT'S TOO FAR AWAY, AND TWO, IT'S ALSO A DOGGONED VOLCANO, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!
IT'S ONLY A MILE, UNCA DONALD, AND IT'S AN EXTINCT VOLCANO!
ONE THAT NEVER GOT OFF THE GROUND!
THE RIM IS ONLY TWENTY FEET HIGH!
NO! AND THAT'S FINAL!
TWO HOURS AND THREE TANTRUMS LATER, DONALD FINALLY GIVES IN –
OKAY! BUT ONLY FOR AN HOUR OR SO! IT'S TWENTY BELOW OUT THERE!
YAHOO!
AND ON ONE CONDITION – I GO WITH YOU TO MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO MONKEY SHINES!
THUS, THE TREK BEGINS –
->BRRR!<-
WHY DO I GET THE FEELING I'M GOING TO REGRET THIS!

CHEER UP, UNCA DONALD! SNOWBOARDING IS FUN!
AND COMPARED TO ALL OF THAT OTHER STUFF, IT'S EXCITING!
MY BOOK IS EXCITING, TOO, AND I'VE HAD TO LEAVE IT AT A CRITICAL MOMENT IN THE STORY!
LANCE FOOLSCAP AND RINSE FLASHWHIP HAVE JUST RESCUED SWEET YOUNG MYRNA FLOYSWITCH FROM THE CLUTCHES OF RHINEWIND VON MANGLEDIP, AN EVIL REAL ESTATE TYCOON WHO –
SPARE US, UNCA DONALD!
WE'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT!
LOOK! THERE'S THE BOWL!
SOON –
IMPRESSIVE, ISN'T IT?
A SNOWBOARDER'S PARADISE!
LET'S ROCK AND ROLL!
NOT SO FAST, HOT SHOTS! I'M GOING TO TRY IT FIRST TO MAKE SURE IT'S SAFE!
BUT YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SNOWBOARDING, UNCA DONALD!
WHAT'S TO KNOW? NOW STAND BACK...

SURPRISINGLY, DONALD PROVES TO BE QUITE GOOD AT IT –
PIECE OF CAKE! NOW I'LL TRY OUT THAT ICY SURFACE AT THE BOTTOM!
YOICKS! WHAT'S THIS?
SPLUSH
HOLY COW, THE BOTTOM OF THE BOWL IS ALL SLUSH! WHAT THE DING-DONG?
IT'S TWENTY BELOW OUT HERE! THIS STUFF OUGHT TO BE FROZEN SOLID!
WHAT'S WRONG, UNCA DONALD!
MAYBE NOTHING, IF YOU KNOW-IT-ALLS HAVE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR THIS STUFF!
SLUSH?
IN THIS WEATHER? THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!
SORRY, UNCA DONALD, BUT WE HAVEN'T GOT A CLUE!
IS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR IS IT GETTING AWFULLY WARM DOWN HERE?
IT'S NOT YOUR IMAGINATION, UNCA DONALD! IT IS WARM!
UH-OH! LOOK OVER THERE!

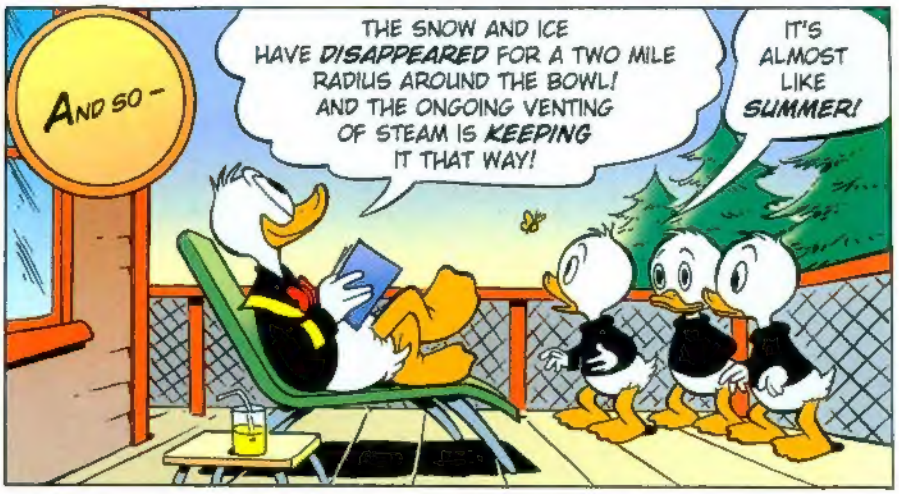
THAT'S STEAM!
HEY! THERE ARE MORE SPOUTS OF STEAM OVER THERE!
ONE, TWO—NO, THREE OF THEM!
->WHEW!<- IT'S GETTING WARMER EVERY MINUTE!
THIS IS NUTS!
YIPES!
NOW WHAT?
RUMBLE
THAT WAS AN EARTHQUAKE!
UNCLE SCROOGE HAS NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT THERE BEING SEISMIC ACTIVITY AROUND HERE!
I'VE JUST HAD A HORRIBLE THOUGHT!
IF IT'S THE SAME ONE I'M HAVING, WE'D BETTER SKEDADDLE OUT OF HERE TOOT SWEET!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT?
THIS SO-CALLED EXTINCT LITTLE VOLCANO WE'RE STANDING IN IS WAKING UP!

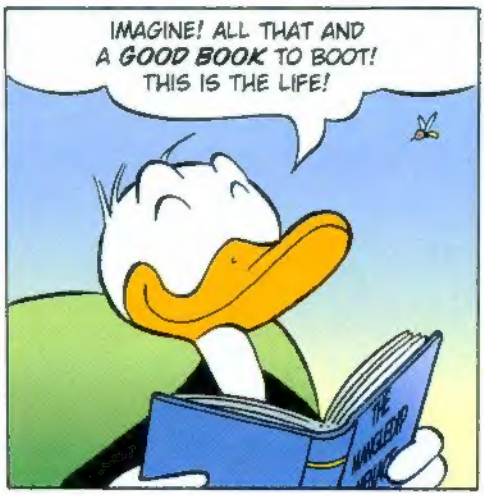
YE CATS! IT'S GOING TO ERUPT!
THEN LET'S GET THE DIDDLY-DICKENS OUT OF HERE!
WHAT ABOUT OUR SNOWBOARDS?
FORGET 'EM! WE'VE GOT TO TRAVEL LIGHT IF WE'RE GOING TO MAKE TRACKS!
THE SLOPE IS TURNING TO SLUSH, TOO!
TELL ME ABOUT IT! I'M NOT GETTING ANYWHERE!
YOWTCH!
SPOOF
THE GROUND IS SHAKING AGAIN!
AND HARDER THIS TIME!
WATCH OUT! HUGE CLUMPS OF SNOW ARE FALLING OUT OF THE TREES!
PLUP
NYAA! MISSED ME!
PLOP
PLOOF

THIS IS NO TIME TO PLAY AROUND, UNCA DONALD!
THAT THING COULD BLOW AT ANY MINUTE!
MY BOOK, "THE MANGLEDIP MENACE" IS LOOKING BETTER ALL THE TIME!
HEADS UP, GUYS! THE TREES ARE REALLY SHEDDING NOW!
PLOP
PLUMP
SWOOSH
CRIPES! THOSE JETS OF STEAM ARE FOLLOWING US!
KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN!
WOW! THE GROUND IS TURNING TO SLUSH EVERYWHERE!
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT IN THIS TIN-HORN STEAM BATH?
OH, NO! NOW IT'S LITTLE DROPLETS OF LAVA!

STAY AS CLOSE TO THE TREES AS POSSIBLE! THEY'LL SHIELD US FROM THE WORST OF IT!
IT'S A GOOD THING THEY'RE SUCH PIFFLING DROPLETS!
YOW!
SPUT
FAMOUS LAST WORDS!
WHOA, NELLY! HERE WE GO AGAIN!
RUMBLE
SPLASH
->BLUB!<-
THE WHOLE LAMEBRAINED HILLSIDE IS TURNING INTO A RIVER!
THERE'S THE CABIN AHEAD! TRY TO GRAB ONTO THE RAILING, OR WE'LL BE SWEPT INTO THE LAKE!
GOT IT! YOU BOYS OKAY?
ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR!
THE RUMBLINGS AND THE BOOMS ARE GETTING LOUDER!
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
BOOM
RUMBLE
HANG ON AND HUNKER DOWN, BOYS, BECAUSE I THINK THE OLD DOZE BOWL IS ABOUT TO BLOW A FUSE!
RUMBLE

KABOOM
SOME FUSE!


AND SO -
THE SNOW AND ICE HAVE *DISAPPEARED* FOR A TWO MILE RADIUS AROUND THE BOWL! AND THE ONGOING VENTING OF STEAM IS *KEEPING* IT THAT WAY!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE *SUMMER!*


IMAGINE! ALL THAT AND A *GOOD BOOK* TO BOOT! THIS IS THE LIFE!

EASY FOR *YOU* TO SAY, LINCA DONALD, BUT WHAT ABOUT *US?*
WHAT ARE *WE* SUPPOSED TO DO?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WE DIDN'T *BRING* ANY BOOKS, GOOD OR OTHERWISE!

LETTERS

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES

E-mail: *wdcs@gemstonepub.com*
Surface mail: *WDC&S, 1966 Greenspring Drive Ste. 400, Timonium MD 21093.*

I recently emailed a response to an issue regarding the reprints of Carl Barks/Paul Murry stuff in *Donald Duck and Friends.* The focus of that email was, principally, the poor quality of the stories in that comic. This email is to say that much of what you have done is good, my previous email notwithstanding. Your prestige comics are excellent. Period. The stories within them are of very high quality.

Daniel Branca's covers are, in a word, superb. Truly superb. I look forward to just seeing them every month. For what it's worth, I do also like the covers that refer to a story inside, like Don Rosa and William Van Horn have done on occasion. But, back to Branca. His covers are excellent, easily as good as the gag covers of the Disney golden age.

Continuing on, the recent story starring Eega Beeva was quite good, and I look forward to such stories including him in the future. I am pleased to see more of Rosa's "Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck" parts, and encourage their printing as well. That said, if Rosa has other non-Uncle Scrooge stories available, please, please, please print them as well. By the way, is there a limit to the number of stories a single artist can have in an issue? In other words, could it be that Rosa could have two shorter stories in an issue, or that Van Horn could have another slot? Perhaps that would not allow enough space for newer artists.

In any event, I like the prestige comics very much and have almost no fault with them. I do have a technical question, however. In Van Horn's August offering about Donald as a cowboy, there was no country/magazine origin code. Where did the story come from, and where was it originally published? Also, if I see a "D" (for Denmark) with some numbers after it, do those numbers correspond to where it's filed, or when it was written, or the issue in which it was published? Or none of the above?

—Robert Hutchings
via email

The errant Van Horn story was originally published in Denmark's Anders And *and should have borne the code D 2001-156, which indicates that it was the 156th story that Egmont purchased in 2001. For the earlier codes that begin with a D 9, like August's Mickey story, "Pin-Top PC" (D 99202), the first two numbers refer to the year purchased. So that one was the 202nd story purchased in 1999. We agree Branca is one of the best cover artists around, easily on a par with the great Barks' covers.*

"You look like the Phantom Blot with a beak!"—an unidentified nephew, noting that, while Donald may be written, penciled, and lettered by William Van Horn, he's just been "inked" by an octopus, from *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* 648.

It seems a tad unfortunate that the classic Carl Barks reprints will be moving over to *Donald Duck and Friends*, as you've done such a fine job of pairing them with a corresponding, contemporary Van Horn gem in these past two issues. First dude ranches, and now travails at the beach. I'm betting there is enough "similar but different" Van Horn and Barks material to have made this a regular occurrence.

Personally, I agree that a "Duck-stuffed" *WDC&S* makes for a better read. A side of Mickey and a garnishing of Wolves "completes the meal" in fine fashion. Each and every story in issue 648 bears this out… standouts, all!

In particular, the Wolf story was pure genius in both story and art. At long last, the matter of Zeke's urge to dine on the pigs is addressed in a surprisingly logical fashion. A most amazing thing occurs in the art, as well. Over the course of their hard journey, the "Olde English" outfits of the Wolf and Pig ancestors undergo wear and "devolve" into an approximation of the very garments they sport today! Simply wonderful!

It might be difficult to top this issue for pure quality on every page… but, it'll be fun watching you try!

—Joe Torcivia
via email

When I read the editorial in the September issue, a small voice inside my head started to yell, no, no, no, you've got it backwards! *More* Duck, not *less!* I usually skip the non-Duck stories completely. Especially Mickey stories, which I really dislike. I buy Disney comics solely for the Ducks. I have to admit I'm somewhat spoiled. As a Norwegian living in the U.S., I subscribe to much of the cool stuff Egmont is releasing "over there," like *Hall of Fame* and the complete hardcover collections of *Anders And and Co.* (and eagerly looking forward to the new *Carl Barks Library* they are going to release). In addidion, I subscribe to your main titles, *WDC&S* and *Uncle Scrooge.* Am I addicted to Ducks? You betcha!

—Sverre Amundsen
via email

You should check out the new Mickey material, Sverre. It's actually very good.

Letters selected for publication may be edited for length and/or content.
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QUESTIONS ABOUT SUBSCRIPTIONS OR BACK ISSUES? Contact Angie Meyer at mangie@diamondcomics.com
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SCOOP

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